Daily Report

Latin America

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OAS Assembly Meeting Continues 8 Jun in Brazil

Baena Soares Urges Compliance With Embargo

PY0806145394 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Report by Antonia Marcia Valle from Belem, Para State]

[Text] Commercial flights to Haiti of the countries of the American continent will be canceled, the bank accounts of the military officers who ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide will be frozen, and the commercial and financial transactions with Haiti will be suspended. These measures are part of the resolution approved on 7 June by the OAS Assembly. They reinforce the economic blockade already imposed on the dictatorial Haitian regime. Their objective is to force the coupist military officers to leave power.

In OAS Secretary General Ambassador Baena Soares' opinion, these measures can only be effective if all countries comply with them. Baena Soares pointed out that these same sanctions already have been approved by the OAS five times:

[Begin Baena Soares recording] All that is missing is compliance with what has been approved. Sanctions, as the United Nations calls them, and measures, as the OAS calls them, can be effective, but only if they are complied with. [end recording]

The blockade of Haiti was reinforced after the plenary session listened to a report by the UN and OAS representative for Haiti, (Collin Granderson). He reported on murdered and missing people, and on an escalation of raping of wives, mothers, daughters, and sisters of militants who defend democracy.

Caricom Favors Stronger Sanctions

PA0806220694 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2002 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Belem, 8 Jun (NOTIMEX)—The Caribbean Common Market (Caricom) spoke out today in favor of stronger sanctions against Haiti to force the military to step down. It also stated it would approve an invasion to reestablish constitutional order.

Grenadian Denneth Modeste, president of the OAS Permanent Council, said "no course of action against the de facto government led by General Raoul Cedras can be ruled out." The possible military operation would have the approval of all Caricom member countries, Modeste affirmed. Modeste is participating in the 24th General Assembly, which will continue until 10 June in Belem, the capital city of the northern Brazilian state of Para. He recalled the U.S. military invasion of Grenada in 1983 "helped democracy."

Foreign ministers and representatives of 34 American nations rejected the Haitian military government's provisional president and announced a strengthening of economic sanctions against the Caribbean nation. The assembly approved a resolution presented by a special commission of OAS foreign ministers on 7 June.

The ministers reaffirmed their decision "not to recognize the authority of any acts executed by the de facto regime, including the illegal appointment of a provisional president on 11 May 1994." The document calls for the organization's member nations to suspend all commercial flights to Haiti and comes one day after receiving approval from the United States for the measure. It also calls for the beginning of radio broadcasts in Creole beamed at the island.

The sanctions approved by the international organization include a trade embargo, the freezing of the military regime's assets, and the end to international financial operations with Haiti. These measures are a response to a military coup that occurred on 30 September 1991, led by Gen. Cedras, that toppled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide from power.

Council Head: 'Do Not Rule Out' Intervention

PY0806224994 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2128 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Belem do Para, 8 Jun (EFE)—Today, OAS Permanent Council President Denneth Modeste said the Caribbean member countries of Caricom [Caribbean Common Market] have not ruled out any option for reestablishing democracy in Haiti, including military intervention.

During a news conference in which he spoke on behalf of Caricom members, Modeste said that "if the sanctions do not attain the desired objective, we do not rule out any option" for reestablishing democracy in Haiti, including the military option.

"We believe the flagrant human rights violations against the poor Haitian people have been going on for too long," Modeste said, adding that before considering a military operation one should wait for the strengthening of the embargo against the Haitian coupists to see if this is effective.

Modeste, who represents Grenada before the OAS, added that the Caricom members have sent "a strong message to the Haitian authorities, and we expect them to respect their people's will to reestablish President Jean Bertrand Aristide in power."

During the OAS General Assembly taking place in this Brazilian coastal city, the foreign ministers of the OAS member countries approved a resolution to intensify the trade embargo against Haiti, asking for total compliance. Regarding the express prohibition against launching armed action against other countries, which is specified in the OAS Charter, Modeste said "it did not prevent the

reestablishment of democracy in Grenada through military intervention." He said this in reference to the U.S. invasion of Grenada in 1983. Modeste stressed the democratic progress attained in Grenada, adding that "for this reason Grenada does not rule out any action."

Despite the call for admitting Haitian refugees, as mentioned in the resolution on Haiti, Modeste said the Caricom countries cannot accept more of them because of the problems that many Caribbean countries have in offering them assistance and services.

"The problem of the refugees reflects what is going on in Haiti, and we must attempt to address the cause rather than the effects, and the cause is human rights violations in Haiti," Modeste said.

As for the possibility that Grenada could participate in a possible military operation against the Haitian coupists, who usurped power from Aristide in September 1991, Modeste said Grenada "does not have an Army," but would be willing to help train "a more responsible Haitian police" once the military return power to Aristide.

The Haitian crisis has been one of the central points discussed at the OAS General Assembly, which began on 6 June and could end tomorrow, a day earlier than scheduled, given the swiftness with which the various committees advanced in their work.

Cuban Readmission Not 'Formally Proposed'

PY0906022294 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2117 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Belem, 8 Jun (EFE)—OAS Assistant Secretary General Christopher Thomas stated here today that so far none of the 34 OAS member countries have formally proposed Cuba's readmission into the organization.

Thomas, who represents Trinidad and Tobago, said OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares had proposed that Cuba's return to the OAS be discussed. He noted, however, that so far no country has made a formal request to this effect.

In accordance with OAS regulations, Thomas said, the readmission of a member country into the organization must first be formally proposed by one member country, and then consulted with the other members attending the General Assembly.

Thomas is actively participating in the 24th OAS General Assembly, which opened on 6 June in the Amazon city of Belem, in northern Brazil. He said: "As Baena Soares said, circumstances today are conducive to reexamining Cuba's readmission to the OAS, but so far I am unaware of any country having made such a proposal."

As assistant secretary general, Thomas will replace Baena Soares—whose term expires this month, after having served 10 years in office—during the two-month period preceding the installation of the new secretary general-elect, Colombian President Cesar Gaviria.

Although some Latin American foreign ministers have timidly defended Baena Soares's proposal that the OAS member countries discuss the possibility of readmitting Cuba, only Argentina has formally stated its position on the issue; that is, its opposition to the proposal.

During a news conference Argentine OAS Ambassador Hernan Patino Meyer said flatly: "The OAS consists of democratic states, and as soon as Cuba takes steps toward its democratization it will be possible to readmit it into the organization."

Asked why Argentina and Brazil had, then, continued as OAS member states under the military regimes, Patino Meyer said that at that time the 1992 clause that provides for the separation from the OAS of nondemocratic states had not yet been approved. "Had I been the OAS secretary general at that time, I would have expelled Argentina and Brazil from the organization," Patino Mayer said.

In his opening speech at the 24th OAS General Assembly, Baena Soares said: "I have been asking for some time whether it is the right moment for the member countries to reexamine the decision they made more than 30 years ago to suspend the Cuban Government from OAS activities. The nineties are different from the sixties."

Baena Soares' proposal was not immediately discussed by the OAS foreign ministers because they were more interested in discussing the Haitian crisis.

Although President Itamar Franco did not discuss the Cuban issue in his speech at the OAS Assembly, he stated shortly before returning to Brasilia that "the OAS must look at the Cuban position."

Cuba was separated from the OAS in 1962, three years after the victory of the Cuban Revolution led by President Fidel Castro.

Mexico Opposes Linking Democracy, Stability

PA0806194894 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1751 GMT 8 Jun 94

[By correspondent Walter Sotomayor]

[Text] Belem, 8 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Mexico reiterated here today that it "automatically" rejects linking the topics of democracy, stability, and security of the hemisphere. Mexico also said it is pleased with the statements made in favor of putting an end to Cuba's isolation.

"As the Inter-American community is called upon to help democracy, it should promote the conditions that stimulate it," said Mexican Ambassador Jorge Pinto Mazal before the 24th OAS General Assembly. The Mexican under secretary for Latin America, cultural

affairs, and cooperation, added that his country's delegation is very pleased to hear the pronouncements in favor of Cuba's participation in the inter-American system. He pointed out that Mexico's foreign policy is noted for favoring dialogue and agreement rather than exclusion and isolation.

The ambassador added that the principles of Mexican foreign policy were reinforced with a negotiated political solution to the crisis in Haiti and the proposals for an end to the isolation of Cuba which were presented by Canada and Brazil. "We are obviously pleased to see that other countries share this stand and do not want to see Cuba isolated," he said. Pinto Mazal heads the Mexican delegation that is attending the 24th OAS General Assembly which will conclude on Friday in Belem, Para State, some 2,000 km north of Brasilia.

Yesterday, Brazil and Canada proposed ending the isolation of Cuba as a mechanism for promoting the "democratic transition" that "is already observed" on the Caribbean island. "We are all hoping for a democratic evolution in Cuba, with which Brazil maintains friendly relations," said Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim to the participants in the regional meeting.

The foreign minister said they have observed positive advances in the implementation of reforms in Cuba, which "should be increased," but rejected that economic and political isolation is the best way to contribute to the transition "that is starting to emerge."

During her remarks, Christine Stewart, the Canadian secretary of state for Latin American affairs, maintained that her country believes that "isolation, due to its nature, is not healthy; especially during this important transition phase in Cuba." Stewart added: "It is in our and the Cuban people's interest that we support the process of change on the island, which is positive and orderly."

On Wednesday, Pinto Meza underscored this, that experience has shown the ineffectiveness of the use of force as an instrument to resolve international conflicts. The lessons of the Cold War should be a reference to avoid the mistakes made in the past," he said.

He praised the work carried out for eight years by Brazilian diplomat Joao Baena Soares as the OAS secretary general. "He led the inter-American organization during particularly tense bipolar moments and during the unique Cold War situation," Pinto Meza added.

The Mexican diplomat also emphasized the importance that Mexico places on the advances made by the countries in social and economic development, the eradication of poverty, and combating drug trafficking activities. He presented Mexico's efforts toward commercial liberalization and economic integration and cautioned about the problems faced by people who look for jobs outside their place of origin.

Pinto Meza promised that his country would support all OAS organization activities to defend human rights and briefed the General Assembly on the establishment of impartial litigation in his country.

Argentine To Propose OAS Military Board

PY0906034894 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 2335 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Belem, 8 Jun (AE)—Argentina will suggest to the OAS the creation of an Inter-American Defense Board to provide military advice to the OAS. Today, Argentine Ambassador to the OAS Hernan Patino said the board is not meant to be an armed branch of the OAS, but an advisory body that would be subject to the political decisions of the OAS. He denied that this proposal is connected with possible military intervention in Haiti. "Argentina has always been against any military intervention that is decided on a unilateral basis," he said.

Patino said the creation of an Inter-American Defense Board could avoid political embarrassments. He pointed out that the military interventions that have taken place in Latin America, like that in Nicaragua to guarantee peace during the elections, have had no legal basis. The board would serve exclusively for the discussion of military subjects and never as an intervention force. For example, one of its functions could be to sweep for mines placed in countries in conflict.

Tomorrow, the Chilean Government will present to the OAS a proposal to create a work group to analyze government corruption and to suggest a code of laws to combat corruption. Chilean Ambassador to Brazil Heraldo Munoz said the economic development of the countries of the region is what is mainly responsible for the expansion of corruption in the continent. "Corruption must be faced as a phenomenon that goes beyond national borders," he said.

This work group should analyze the laws against corruption of the OAS member countries and should include some of them in a code of laws that would be approved by the OAS. Argentine Ambassador to the OAS Hernan Patino said that corruption does not take place in Latin America only, mentioning recent cases in Japan, Italy, and Spain.

Tomorrow, Brazil will present a resolution ratifying Argentina's rights over the Malvinas Islands (or the Falklands, to the British). Brazil presents the same resolution in favor of Argentina at all OAS assemblies. "Argentina will always claim, in a peaceful manner at all international forums, its sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands," Patino said.

Bolivia Delegate on Sea Outlet Discussion

PY0806175494 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1818 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Excerpt] Belem, Para (Brazil), 7 Jun (EFE)—During a speech to the 24th OAS General Assembly on 7 June,

Bolivian Foreign Minister Antonio Aranibar Quiroga stated that the Bolivian Government hopes that this year it will start holding talks with Chile on the problem of Bolivia's land-locked situation.

Aranibar said: "We believe there are new conditions to tackle the issue of our aspirations to an outlet to the sea." He reported that the presidents of both countries will discuss the issue during the Fourth Ibero-American Summit of heads of government and state to be held in the Colombian city of Cartagena de Indias on 14-15 June.

The Bolivian foreign minister asserted that "in the course of the meetings that (Bolivian) President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada held with Chilean presidential candidates before the elections, including then-candidate Eduardo Frei, he sensed that Chile was more willing to discuss that issue."

Bolivia's land-locked situation was on the agenda of the 24th OAS General Assembly, which was inaugurated in Belem, a city in Para State in the Amazon, on 6 June. This issue was discussed by the foreign ministers of the two countries involved.

This question has been included on the agenda of all OAS General Assemblies since 1979 at the request of Bolivia and despite the fact that Chile has always objected to it. The Bolivian claim has been endorsed in the last few years by 11 OAS resolutions.

In his address to the foreign ministers and chiefs of delegations of the 34 OAS member countries, the Bolivian foreign minister asserted that his country has the right to ask the international community to discuss Bolivia's possibility of having an outlet to the sea and to give it the same treatment as the cases of Palestine, South Africa, and Haiti.

Chilean Foreign Minister Carlos Figueroa Serrano stated that his country's stance is based on respect for the principle of nonintervention and faithful compliance with the treaties on that matter. He said: "We would like once again to insist at this meeting on the legal arguments that prove that our claim is valid." [passage omitted]

Chile's Figueroa on Joining Mercosur

PY0906004494 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1830 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jun (EFE)—Today, Chilean Foreign Minister Carlos Figueroa presented Chile's formal proposal to Argentine authorities to join the Common Market of the South (Mercosur) as an "independent partner."

Figueroa expressed Chile's "firm decision" to increase its economic ties with the rest of Latin America, a step that "is not incompatible" with its attempt to join NAFTA, which comprises the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

During a news conference in which he was joined by Argentine Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella, Figueroa explained that Chile proposed measures to gradually deregulate the trade of goods, services, and investments between Chile and the Mercosur partners.

Figueroa stressed that Mercosur, to which Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay belong, "is an extremely clear opportunity to export Chilean manufactured goods of high added value."

Figueroa pointed out that Chile seeks to join, as an "observer," Mercosur's dozen or so "working groups," which establish the trade and economic policies that the four partners of the regional integration agreement must implement.

Di Tella, as the Mercosur "pro tempore" secretary (coordination chief), received Chile's formal proposal. He stressed that Chile "has animated" the regional integration agreement's partners. The Argentine foreign minister emphasized: "It represents a very significant step because from now on the great political and economic advancements among the American Southern Cone countries will be even greater, like never before."

Di Tella noted that Bolivia is the other Southern Cone country that has shown "great interest" in joining Mercosur, whose full implementation is scheduled for 1995. The Argentine foreign minister said "it would be ideal" to reach an agreement on Chile's entry next year.

Carlos Figueroa denied that the Chilean entry proposal had been received with distrust by Uruguay, whose foreign minister, Sergio Abreu, "was one of the most animated."

The Mercosur foreign ministers received a preliminary Chilean proposal during the OAS General Assembly that met for two days in the Brazilian city of Belem do Para.

The Chilean foreign minister refused to supply more details on the proposal because "it must be reviewed" by the Mercosur partners.

Figueroa pointed out that Chile's interest in joining stems from Mercosur's economic potential and its negotiating power with other trade blocs, especially the EU. Figueroa said the Chilean proposal follows agreements with the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) and the Brazilian proposal to establish a regional free trade zone.

The Chilean foreign minister is scheduled to meet tomorrow with Argentine and Chilean entrepreneurs who have invested in Argentina.

Mexican Official on Salinas Visit to Cuba

PA0906004594 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0931 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Belem, 8 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Jorge Pinto Mazal, Mexican deputy secretary of foreign relations, has said, here, Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's visit

to Cuba will strengthen ties between both countries and create new opportunities for Mexican investments on the island.

The Mexican diplomat has announced Salinas will meet with Cuban President Fidel Castro and members of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers on 13 June.

Salinas will reaffirm the friendly and fraternal ties between Mexico and the Cuban people. We are neighboring countries sharing the same cultural values," Pinto Mazal said in an interview with NOTIMEX. [no opening quotation mark as received]

He added the principles guiding Mexico's foreign policy were reinforced with a negotiated [words indistinct] solution for the Haitian crisis and the proposals to end Cuba's isolation presented by Canada and Brazil. "We are very pleased to see other countries share that position and do not want to see Cuba isolated," he said.

Pinto is participating in the 24th OAS General Assembly in Belem, the capital of the Brazilian State of Para, which will end 10 June.

Pinto has said the flow of Mexican tourists as well as Mexican investments in Cuba have increased considerably. He added that the Mexican Government and investors view Cuba as a "suitable" place for investments under the current commercial conditions which attract investments to the island. He said the National Foreign Trade Bank (Bancomext) views Cuba as a safe country for Mexican capital.

According to a Bancomext report, there is a "favorable [words indistinct] worldwide tendencies "is a situation" that encourages a greater volume of business activities between Mexico and Cuba.

During the past five years, small- and medium-size Mexican investors have shown interest in exploiting the Cuban market and obtaining a clear knowledge of the facilities offered by Castro's government for foreign investments, particularly from Latin America.

Based on figures released by the Cuban Government, trade between both countries totals approximately $200 million, a figure that has increased in the past few years.

During the morning session of the 24th OAS General Assembly, Brazil and Canada proposed an end to Cuba's isolation [word indistinct] a mechanism to promote the "democratic transition" that "can already be seen" on the Caribbean island.

"We are all expecting a democratic change in Cuba, a country with which Brazil maintains friendly relations," Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim said during the assembly.

Amorin said positive actions can be perceived in the Cuban reforms, which "should be strengthened." He ruled out, however, economic and political isolation as the best way to contribute to encouraging that transition, which was "already initiated."

In her speech, Christine Stewart, Canadian secretary of state for Latin American affairs, said her country believes that "due to its nature, isolation is unhealthy, especially at this important time of transition for Cuba."

"It is in our interest and that of the Cuban people for us to support the process of transition taking place on the island, a transition which is positive and orderly," Stewart said.

The official said the Canadian Government is evaluating new steps to intensify dialogue with the Cuban authorities. "We believe it is important for the OAS and Cuba to examine how to bring about the founding fathers' vision of [words indistinct] inter-American organization for hemispheric participation," the Canadian representative added.

"Cuba is part of that vision," Stewart added while demanding the [words indistinct] in the debate about its possible readmittance into the inter-American system.

The foreign ministers have been participating in the OAS General Assembly since 6 June and up until [words indistinct] in this city located approximately 2,000 km north of Brasilia.

Cuba

Canada Reportedly To Lift Aid Embargo 20 Jun

FL0806182294 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Canada plans to announce before the month's end the lifting of the aid embargo imposed on Cuba 16 years ago, when Cuban troops gave their internationalist help to Angola. Canadian Government sources in Ottawa have said that Christine Stewart, minister of state for Latin America and Africa, will make the announcement during an economic conference in Havana on 20 June. Canadian aid will not be between governments but will consist of assistance to nongovernmental organizations that work in Cuba.

The Canadian Government gave approximately $576,000 in urgent assistance to humanitarian organizations in Cuba last year, including the Red Cross. Ottawa never broke diplomatic relations even though it suspended all governmental aid to Havana in 1978. The same source stated that the lifting of the aid embargo on Cuba has been generally well received.

Colombian Ties Assessed; Gaviria To Attend Summit

FL0806181894 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Report by correspondent Pedro Manuel Otero, from Cartagena de Indias, Colombia; from the "First Thing" program]

[Text] Colombian President Cesar Gaviria will host 20 of his Ibero-American counterparts in Cartagena de Indias on 14 June. He will conclude his term in August, after almost five years as head of the Colombian Government. This man has carried out social security plans, enforced efficient strategies in the struggle against the drug cartels, and sponsored an active foreign policy that put the country in a leading position at the continental level. Colombia comprises—along with Venezuela and Mexico—the active Group of Three.

Gaviria's role undoubtedly resulted in his appointment as OAS secretary general, replacing Joao Baena Soares at the end of his term. Colombian citizens breathed easier with Gaviria because he virtually dismantled the dangerous Medellin Cartel and carried out other actions to improve public safety. His government also adopted important decisions in the foreign policy sector, including the decision to restore diplomatic relations with Cuba in October 1993.

Bilateral relations have increased since then. Four Colombian ministers have travelled to the island and a similar number of Cuban officials have visited Santa Fe de Bogota in less than eight months. The exchange in the trade and technical sectors and the search for investments in Havana have played a prominent role. Innumerable Colombian foreign trade delegations and businessmen have visited socialist Cuba. The two countries have participated in scientific and technological projects and carried out important negotiations in the pharmaceutical and metalworks industries and in the agricultural and perishable consumer goods sectors.

Colombia received Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina on 12 December, meeting President Gaviria, Foreign Minister Noemi Sanin, and numerous businessmen during his three-day official visit. He also established the groundwork for creating a binational commission. Carlos Lage, Council of Ministers vice president, and Education Minister Luis Ignacio Gomez arrived in Santa Fe de Bogota after that first official Cuban visit to Colombia. Colombian Health Minister Juan Carlos Londono and Energy and Mines Minister Guido Nule also visited Havana.

An unpleasant incident occurred in the interim: A newspaper in Santa Fe de Bogota tried to present Cuba as a sponsor of a guerrilla summit in Havana. The anti-Cuban campaign coincided with the announcement that Colombia would sell Cuba 15,000-20,000 barrels of oil. The incident was finally cleared up, the newspaper apologized to Cuba, the case was closed, and the rhythm of relations resumed.

Ernesto Melendez, minister for foreign relations and economic cooperation, arrived in Santa Fe de Bogota, while the Colombian agriculture minister arrived in Havana. Foreign Minister Noemi Sanin also visited the Cuban capital, meeting President Fidel Castro and other high-ranking leaders.

Incidentally, Fidel Castro's upcoming visit to Cartagena de Indias to attend the fourth Ibero-American summit will be the second time that Castro has visited Colombia as head of state, the first being in August 1993 after he attended President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada's inauguration in Bolivia.

Radio Cites Calls for OAS Reintegration Study

FL0806175094 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Jun 94

[From the "Exclusive" program]

[Text] The 24th OAS General Assembly today continued hearing requests for Cuba's reintegration into that regional organization, from which it was separated in 1962 because of its political differences with the United States. On the second day of sessions in Belem do Para, Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim spoke of Cuba's reintegration into the OAS Assembly and insisted on the need to reevaluate Cuba's situation within the hemispheric community. Outgoing OAS President Joao Baena Soares, as well as Brazilian President Itamar Franco, recommended during last night's inaugural

meeting that Cuba's reintegration be studied. This topic was not on the agenda of the meeting, which will conclude on 10 June.

PRC Official Notes Opposition to U.S. Blockade

FL0806175194 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Report by correspondent Orestes Eujelles from the "Exclusive" program]

[Text] Xiao Zeban, a member of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions Secretariat, has underscored the importance of coordinating Chinese and Cuban labor union efforts to obtain greater success. The Chinese labor union leader made this statement today, during a meeting in Havana between the high ranking delegation which he heads and members of the national secretariat of the Cuban Workers Federation [CTC]. Xiao expressed opposition to the U.S. blockade against Cuba on behalf of the 104 million members of the Chinese labor union movement and described the Cuban people as brave and audacious because of their firmness in light of the difficulties.

National CTC Second Secretary Salvador Valdes highlighted Cuban and Chinese efforts to develop their economies without abandoning the important role of the workers and socialism.

More on Raul Castro's Visit to Central Army Units

FL0806192194 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Report by correspondents Mario Rivera and Marta Moreno from the NTV newscast]

[Text] Army General Raul Castro, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR], has visited Central Army units. Raul Castro was accompanied by Commander of the Revolution Juan Almeida Bosque, Division Gen. Ulises Rosales del Toro, and other high-ranking FAR officers and representatives of the peoples and political organizations.

In the morning, Raul and his delegation met Division Gen. Joaquin Quintas Sola at Central Army headquarters. The FAR minister and his delegation first laid a wreath in honor of the militia leaders who died in combat during the Bay of Pigs attack.

[Begin Quintas recording] We are honored today with a visit to this Central Army territory, including parts of Matanzas and Villa Clara Provinces. [end recording]

Yadira Garcia, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba in Matanzas, gave a briefing on the province's economic, political, and social situation. Garcia stressed key accomplishments and highlighted difficulties encountered in some economic activities and the efforts that are being made to move forward.

Colonel Alberto Cabrera Valdez, second chief of staff of the province, gave a briefing on combat preparation and readiness, conservation of equipment and weapons, evaluating the defensive readiness and awareness of the population, and the development of the self-sufficiency program. Cabrera emphasized the work being carried out in Varadero, Limonar, and Cienaga Municipalities to attain the second-level defensive readiness condition.

The evening was dedicated to visiting people's tunnels, caves readied for defense, and larger fortified constructions, from which an active defense is guaranteed. The visitors were also able to ascertain how activities are carried out in one of these command stations. Living and working conditions are assured in these facilities, no matter how difficult they may be. The delegation also visited a high security area in which an artillery unit is located. Division Gen. Ulises Rosales del Toro stressed the need to preserve and improve this type of facility.

Another visit of interest was made to the (?espirulina) plant, a microseaweed that allows the production of high-protein food supplements that, in tablet form, can be used by soldiers under any circumstances. This microseaweed has proved that it works to combat illnesses, such as optic neuritis.

Commander of the Revolution Juan Almeida Bosque asked about the plant's investments, the cost, number of workers, and the conditions under which this production takes place.

Juan Contino, first secretary of the Union of Young Communists, stated that over 50 percent of the plant workers are young and have intermediate-level schooling.

There is no doubt after visiting these Central Army units that this area's protection is assured and that the FAR members and the population work intensively to assure that this is so.

[Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish at 1100 GMT on 8 June reports during its regularly scheduled "First Thing" program that Raul Castro's delegation visited the "No. 2 Citrus Farm," in Jaguey Grande, and met Agriculture Minister Alfredo Jordan, Matanzas Province leaders, citrus farm representatives, and chiefs of the Youth Labor Army's (EJT) 102d Division. The report adds that the officials "agreed to convert the citrus farm, considered among the world's largest, into the EJT integral farm mode, whose efficiency has been proved in the area and other parts of the country."]

Colonel on Military's Self-Financing Efforts

PA0906001594 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Report by Maria Elena Samper from the "Evening Information Review" newscast]

[Text] Last year, when Army General Raul Castro, in an interview granted to the newspaper EL SOL DE MEXICO, announced the island's goal of having the most cost-effective Armed Forces in the hemisphere, the Cuban military's efforts—efforts the military had been making for some time—finally became public.

At the end of the eighties, the Defense Ministry's expenses totaled hundreds of millions of pesos. A review of these expenses paved the way for a reduction in costs after basic steps were taken to update the military's financial system. Measures were applied at all levels, thereby reorganizing the budget system on the basis of charging for goods and services provided or required by each unit.

Profitability, costs, control of resources, the struggle for efficiency, and the policy of basing investments on profits are part of the vocabulary that dominates the process now under way within the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces].

During a conversation with Colonel Harry Villegas of the Western Army's political sector, I was able to understand more profoundly how the armed institution's self-financing is being achieved.

[Begin recording] [Villegas] Based on the principle that we must be self-financed, [words indistinct] budget, there are two basic roads to self-financing. One is a reduction in expenses, and the second is money-making efforts. Money-making efforts have been taking place in agricultural production; in commercial activities, such as taking care of officers' homes, tourism, and the sale of certain food supplies; and in various other activities. All of these steps help reduce expenses.

Under this system, each one of these primary, agricultural and commercial activities has its own account. These activities are generating profits gradually. Once profits are realized, 60 percent go toward taxes which, in turn, remain in the Armed Forces Ministry, but at a ministry level. Meanwhile, 12 percent of these profits go to Social Security, and 5 percent—as in the case of commercial activities—are distributed among those taking part in earning the profits. The remaining profits go into the unit chief's account, and these funds can be used for new investments. They can be used to motivate individuals or to resolve problems in the unit itself.

This represents very efficient financial control. Gradually, both factors, when you see the overall picture, will reduce the budget and will limit or reduce expenses.

[Samper] Therefore, you are saying that nowadays unit chiefs must become multitalented men. They must be very knowledgeable in several fields and in a number of specialties because they can no longer simply rely on their military training, as they have done up until now. Therefore, the unit chief must also fulfill political duties and other specific duties.

[Villegas] They must be fully prepared.

[Samper] That is right, they must be fully prepared. Currently, what new responsibilities and skills are required of unit chiefs?

[Villegas] Currently, as you have been able to see, we devote ourselves to combat training. We are practically maintaining the same level of combat training we previously had. In addition to this, however, we must also guarantee our soldiers' nourishment. [Word indistinct] is being guaranteed, and it is being guaranteed in a qualitative fashion. We must control conservation and maintenance of [word indistinct], which, as you can see, this activity requires. We must take charge of deployment. You have been able to observe that a high percentage—and, each time it will be higher—of our combat forces order arms [words indistinct].

Another skill required is that of an economist. We are not talking about economists with degrees or economists [word indistinct]; instead, they must have command of the economy. They must know what a product costs, and not be content with a product that represents a loss. At all times, they must know what resources require investments, how to make investments, and to truly control costs. They must truly oversee investments.

Of course, one must devote time to this. When all of these qualities are taken into account, you will realize that our unit chiefs must be well prepared. [end recording]

Cuba's FAR is on the road to self-financing, which, from an economic viewpoint, translates into reduced dependency on the state's overall budget. Moreover, it also translates into greater defensive capabilities, maneuverability, and flexibility.

Oil Companies Discover Cardenas Bay Deposit

FL0806174994 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Jun 94

[From the "First Thing" program]

[Text] The first well drilled by oil companies working with Cupet [expansion unknown] in the search for new deposits has yielded positive results. A deposit has been discovered with research currently underway to determine its dimensions. GRANMA reports that the discovery was made at Cardenas Bay, Matanzas Province, in the area leased by Canadian companies Canada Northwest Energy and Fortuna Petroleum, Inc. Tests reveal an estimated daily production of 3,750 barrels of 16 API—the international unit to measure the oil's density—oil. The oil is considered heavy but of better quality than the oil extracted at Varadero.

Roundup of Criminal Activity

FL0706115494

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on criminal activity monitored from Havana radio sources in Spanish between 26 May and 5 June.

The Havana police have arrested a group of thieves, who were prepared to steal parabolic antennas and automobile batteries in Diez de Octubre Municipality, Havana City Province. Batteries and antennas were repossessed from the people who purchased them from the group to manufacture generators. Seven suspects are currently in jail awaiting trial. (Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 May)

"A total of 415 violators of the self-employment law have been fined in Matanzas Province to date. A total of 200 of the fined citizens in Varadero are from other provinces." (Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0900 GMT 3 June)

Roundup of Politburo Members' Activities

FL0706115394

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on the activities of members of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba monitored from Havana radio and television sources in Spanish between 30 May and 5 June.

Division General Cintra Frias has visited the Western Army and pointed out the intense efforts that it is making to become the best command within the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba. (Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1409 GMT 31 May 94)

Maria De Los Angeles Garcia inaugurated the first Molecular Immunology Research Center in Camaguey Province on 31 May. (Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Jun 94)

Alfredo Jordan has participated in the plenum of the provincial committee in Matanzas, where he stressed the importance of increasing efficiency and improving working conditions for workers. The plenum also analyzed the delays in planting vegetables and tubers caused by the lack of resources and manpower. (Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 May 94)

Jordan has visited Matanzas, where he praised the Basic Cooperative Production Units and stressed that they were called to be the response to Cuba's food production needs. (Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0900 GMT 2 Jun 94)

Jordan is chairing an agricultural review at a pharmaceutical laboratory in Havana. At the meeting, Jordan pointed out the need to establish a program to supply Havana residents with leafy vegetables and stressed the importance of economic efficiency and cost reductions. (Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Jun 94)

Yadira Garcia has chaired the provincial plenum of the Communist Party of Cuba in Matanzas. Garcia stressed the need for increased efforts in the harvest production. Alfredo Jordan also attended the plenum. (Havana Cuba Vision Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 May 94)

Julian Rizo Alvarez stressed the need for the people to participate in the reforestation program during a meeting on the reforestation program's progress in Camaguey Province. (Havana Radio Reloj in Spanish 1403 GMT 30 May 94)

Rizo Alvarez met cattle breeders in Camaguey Province and stressed the importance of renewed milk production efforts, as well as the care of resources and animals. Rizo praised the efforts of the Basic Cooperative Production Units in the province. (Havana Radio Reloj in Spanish 1404 GMT 31 May 94)

Julian Rizo Alvarez and Maria De Los Angeles Garcia have inaugurated a Molecular Immunology Center at the Carlos J. Finley Medical Institute, in Camaguey. (Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1932 GMT 30 May 94)

Rizo Alvarez and De Los Angeles Garcia have chaired the third provincial plenum of the Communist Party of Cuba in Camaguey Province. The main issue was the science and technology program, which prompted comments by numerous invited researchers. (Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Jun 94)

Pedro Ross Leal has chaired the economic efficiency assembly of the workers of the Electronic Equipment Production Complex in Havana. Ross stressed that the necessary measures will require in-depth analysis and awareness. (Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Jun 94)

Dominican Republic

Secretariat Declines Comment on U.S. Troops

PA0906023194 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2348 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Santo Domingo, 8 Jun (EFE)—The Dominican Foreign Secretariat declined to comment today on the possible arrival of U.S. troops to the Dominican Republic as "logistic support" to oversee the compliance of the embargo against Haiti.

Fabio Herrera Cabral, deputy foreign secretary of state, according to Foreign Secretariat sources, has maintained "intense contacts" this week with Apostolic Nuncio Fortunato Baldelli, UN representatives, the UN high commissioner for refugees (ACNUR), and other Latin American diplomats.

Today, Chamber of Deputies President Norge Botello warned that thousands of Haitian women and children are planning to stage a protest march along the border on 12 June to demand that food be allowed to enter Haiti from the Dominican Republic.

Botello said a "misfortune could occur" should the Dominican military attempt to oppose the Haitian demonstration. "I believe it is a difficult situation, the reason

why our authorities must try to control the situation, discern what is taking place, and try to resolve it," he added.

He called on the Dominican authorities and UN representatives in Santo Domingo to allow food and medication to reach "a population that is dying of famine."

Likewise, the opposition party Independent Revolutionary Party (PRI) called on Dominican President Joaquin Balaguer to "break the blockade" against Haiti so as to prevent a "genocide along the border."

PRI Vice President Hector Guzman contends the OAS and the United Nations "are not fulfilling their obligation to the Dominican Republic, the reason why President Balaguer does not have to fulfill his obligation to the embargo against Haiti."

He said the "total shutdown" of the Dominican-Haitian border is to the detriment of both nations, which share the island of Hispaniola.

Also today, the group of progovernment deputies of the Social Christian Reformist Party (PRSC) requested Balaguer and the United Nations lift the embargo against the military, who deposed Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide in September 1991 because it only affects those lower income Haitians.

The Dominican Armed Forces, responsible for enforcing the embargo, reiterated "the border is under control."

The Defense Ministry's position was adopted following U.S. Ambassador Robert Pastorino's visit to the border with Haiti this past weekend so as to supervise the implementation of the embargo.

Pastorino stated in Dajabon, a Dominican city near the border with Haiti, that the United States and the Dominican Republic are assessing the possibility of allowing food and medications to reach the Haitian people.

On 6 June, after blocking passage, the Dominican soldiers stationed along the border, allowed a select group of Haitians to cross the border to purchase medications, but only in household amounts. The Dominican soldiers allowed their Haitian colleagues, relatives, and civilians to cross the Dominican border for two hours.

Since the total embargo against Haiti went into affect, as a result of violent incidents that have broken out, at least two Haitians have been killed attempting to cross the border to purchase food and fuel. The victims are a man who was shot by a Dominican soldier on 5 June and a woman who was found dead on 7 June in what is believed to be a score-settling incident between smugglers.

With respect to the total embargo, the Dominican military expressed its concern that it may have to "kill several hundred Haitians who would rather die here (in Dominican territory) and not in their own country."

PRD Proposes Measures To Resolve 'Crisis'

PA0906015394 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1943 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Santo Domingo, 8 Jun (EFE)—The Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) proposed several measures today to resolve the crisis triggered by the 16 May elections, which the PRD maintains were fraudulent, to the Central Electoral Board (JCE).

The PRD's measures range from holding new elections, in which all political parties will participate, to holding elections at the most conflicting voting tables.

PRD leader Jose Francisco Pena Gomez requested an honest count of void and contested (embargoed) votes and an explanation of the evident inclusion of voters from the ruling Social Christian Reformist Party (PRSC), which is affiliated with the "Santo Domingo Accord" Alliance. These voters allegedly voted with only their personal identification and electoral numbers.

He also recommended determining the difference between the number of voters included on the voting lists delivered to the political parties and the number of voters included on those lists delivered to the electoral tables by the JCE and to investigate the alleged exclusion of voters.

Pena suggested that independent, national, and foreign technicians advise the JCE on computer operations and that civilian society and Catholic Church personalities help in the count. The PRD leader urged Electoral Tribunal judges "to reestablish the original resolve of the Dominican people."

The leader of the PRD and "Santo Domingo Accord" Alliance maintained that other ways to respect the people's resolve "while reestablishing the only truth that emerged from the 16 May elections" could include holding new elections with the participation of all political parties.

Pena said complementary elections could be held where it is proven a large number of voters could not cast their votes. He added, however, "the PRSC personal identification card factory will have to be closed" in order to meet this goal.

He accentuated his allegation of fraud during the 16 May elections, thereby noting the country is facing an "electoral coup d'etat" to curtail the Dominican people's right to freely elect their rulers.

The Dominican Republic has immersed itself in endless arguments and accusations of fraud, which are keeping the country bogged in economic uncertainty and a suspension of such productive activities as tourism and free zones.

Haiti

Dominican Official Terms Embargo 'Genocide'

FL0806215494 Port-au-Prince Radio Tropic FM in French 1400 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] To avoid genocide in Haiti, it is urgent the United Nations send the Dominican Republic the list of food products not included in the embargo. This is the position expressed on 7 June by Dominican Deputy Foreign Minister Fabio Herrera Cabral. In his opinion, the complete closing of the border between the two countries is speeding up an imposed, strategic genocide within Haitian society.

Cabral also complains that he has not yet received the list promised about one week ago by Dante Caputo. The deputy foreign minister also pointed out that he does not know the date on which to expect the mission of 60 UN observers who have agreed to help with surveillance of the border area.

Aristide's 6 Jun Address to OAS Assembly Cited

FL0806154194 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Text] President-in-exile Jean-Bertrand Aristide issued a call at the OAS General Assembly for the international community to take quick and decisive action to oust the military that overthrew him in September 1991. Quick and decisive action is needed to dislodge those responsible for the coup d'etat in the framework of the Governors Island Agreement, Jean-Bertrand Aristide told the OAS General Assembly in Brazil. I will not waste time describing this action since the international community knows what it is, the president-in-exile said without explicitly mentioning military intervention.

OAS international mediator Dante Caputo believes this crisis can be solved peacefully and in a few weeks. He thinks we do not face a whole year, stating that it would be necessary to issue a diplomatic ultimatum to the military in Haiti. He concluded, quote, we cannot condemn an armed intervention and not do anything to avoid it, unquote.

Jean-Bertrand Aristide presented a government action program to be executed on his return. First, the president-in-exile asked for the immediate return of the UN mission in Haiti, the UN mission provided for in the Governors Island Agreement. I will return after the mission is sent and after an army and police reform program is introduced, he said. Once the government is restored, Jean-Bertrand Aristide also promises to collaborate with the UN mission for six months, as indicated in the Governors Island Agreement. At the same time, he expressed his willingness to reconcile Haitians with themselves, including the military. There will be reconciliation after democracy is restored in Haiti, which means peace for all, respect for each citizen, unity, and justice for all, he stated. The president-in-exile also presented a development program involving international aid. A country at work is a country at peace, assured the president-in-exile, who invited the OAS chancellors to meet in Haiti for the next OAS General Assembly.

Those were statements made by President-in-exile Jean-Bertrand Aristide during the the 24th OAS General Assembly on 6 June.

Jonassaint Minister: Malval Should Be Arrested

FL0806231994 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Passages within quotation marks in Creole]

[Excerpts] The unofficial Senate office received the minister of justice of the provisional government, attorney Louis B. Toussaint, on 7 June within the format of its planned consultations with officials of the new provisional government. Restoring the authority of the government, reforming justice, and reducing the cost of living will be the priorities of the Ministry of Justice, according to attorney Louis Toussaint, who also discussed the Ministry's currently meager resources. Let us listen to a report by Jean Luckenson.

[Begin recording] [Luckenson] "Within the scope of the series of meetings with the family [as heard] on 7 June, it was the turn of Louis B. Toussaint, justice minister of Emile Jonassaint's provisional government, which is not recognized by the international community. Toussaint, who was accompanied by his general director Yves Barbot and his head of cabinet, Jean-Claude Jean-Jacques, responded to the invitation of the unofficial Senate office presided over by Senator Bernard Sansaricq, legitimate son of the Alliance for Parliamentary Cohesion, in the company of the contested family of 18 January senators.

"Following the speech by Sansaricq, who is president of the unofficial Senate office, Senate Justice Commission president, Sen. Romel Manigat, drew a portrait of Haitian justice, which he believes is not only on crutches, but is paralyzed, in a five-page speech in French. He pointed an accusing finger at judges who he said are selling justice by caprice. In his speech, he congratulated and did not forget to flatter the provisional government's justice minister, who had been his teacher at the Philippe Guerrier Public High School, and at the Faculty of Law in Cap-Haitien, the country's second city." [passage omitted]

"For his part, Louis B. Toussaint thanked the president of the unofficial Senate office. He did not hesitate to turn the pages of Haitian history. He said the country finds itself today in the gravest moment of its history. The minister summarized four points on which they should work so the justice department can function properly to reach a state of law." [passage omitted]

"The justice minister said they will work to reform the judicial system in Haiti, although the task will not be easy. Toussaint launched pointed remarks while Sen. Yves Rousseau napped in his seat. Sen. Dupiton had a quiet laugh when Toussaint said that the one who had asked that 10,000 people rather than 7,000 enter Haiti within the scope of the UN Mission in Haiti [MINUHA] should be arrested. Improving salaries, reducing the cost of living, stabilizing the country's economy, and restoring the government's authority are priority points for the ministry he is leading. But unfortunately, he said, mud stops the current. It is a provisional government, not a definitive government."

[Toussaint] I heard this same individual, who pretends to be Haitian, saying that when they proposed to send MINUHA here with 1,500 men, he prided himself on having answered the foreigners that 10,000 were needed. I heard with dread that same individual saying they are ready, the people are ready to receive the foreigners, and the Army will be absolutely helpless against the invasion. His words say he hopes for the invasion with all his heart. The duty of the Ministry of Justice would be to have this traitor—I publicly call him a traitor—arrested immediately, but we understand that this is just a provocation.

[Luckenson] "Those who were listening to the minister were greatly surprised because he did not speak of the cases of disappearances and arrests made without warrants everyday in both Port-au-Prince and the province cities, or of the fate of those who have been in jail for a long time.

"We should tell you that this series of meetings began during the week of 23 May among members of the provisional government of President Emile Jonassaint and the second Senate office, which is not recognized by the international community. We must tell you that the justice minister of the provisional government, attorney Toussaint, is the one who was proposed as provisional president of the provisional government formed under Article 111 of the country's fundamental law, following the congress of the Group of Citizens of the Greater North, which lasted three days at the National Theater. Jean Luckenson for Signal FM." [end recording]

Toussaint Consults Legislators on Priorities

FL0806163294 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Passages within quotation marks in Creole]

[Excerpts] On 7 June as part of its series of consultations with new provisional government officials, the upper chamber's unofficial office heard attorney Louis B. Toussaint, justice minister in the provisional government. Toussaint assured the audience that restoring government authority, reforming justice, and reducing the cost of living will be Justice Ministry priorities and discussed the Ministry's meager resources at the current juncture. [passage omitted]

"Senator Romel Manigat, president of the upper chamber's justice commission, painted his own picture of the Haitian justice system in a five-page address in French, saying he believes it is on crutches and even paralyzed. He pointed an accusing finger at judges he claims are selling justice at will." [passage omitted]

"Toussaint thanked the president of the unofficial Senate office. He did not refrain from turning the pages of Haitian history, saying that the country is currently passing through the gravest moments in its history. The minister summarized four points on which they should work so that the justice department can function properly and that legal order can be restored." [passage omitted]

"We will work to reform Haiti's judicial system even though the task will not be easy, Toussaint said as Senator Yves Rousseau was taking a nap in his seat. Senator Dupiton had a quiet laugh when Toussaint said that the one who asked for 10,000 people instead of 7,000 people to enter Haiti within the scope of the UN Mission in Haiti should be arrested. The Ministry he leads lists as its priorities: salaries, the cost of living, economic stabilization, and the restoration of government authority. Unfortunately, they may be biting off more than they can chew. It is a provisional government, not a definitive government."

Provisional Defense Minister Addresses Senate

FL0906002794 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Text] The provisional government would like to keep its distance from the legislators who appointed it. Do not impose your work pace on us. We are in a special situation, involved in a struggle, which was lost in advance, stated Minister of the Interior and National Defense Willio Nouailles, who was invited to appear on 6 June by a group of senators. He said he wished the senators would give the government time to act as needed at this juncture. Edner Jean filed a report:

[Begin recording] [Jean] The first case discussed by the office of Senator Sansaricq was security, including cliches about corpses being devoured by pigs after having been murdered by armed civilians. Romel Manigat, president of the Interior and National Defense Commission, asked Minister Willio Nouailles about the executions committed by political and paramilitary formations as well as the overly brutal interventions by the agents of order, who are in some cases known to all. Another question raised by the commission was the measures the provisional government intends to take to force awareness of their responsibility on those who need it, in view of guaranteeing national sovereignty, which is being threatened.

Regarding the boat people, the provisional government has just reactivated the decree repressing clandestine trips. Is this a test to make Washington yield, asked

Romel Manigat, whose election has been contested. What are the duties of the Armed Forces in this case, he also asked.

Regarding 1994 elections, the Interior and National Defense Commission considers that the provisional government is already late with its electoral agenda. Some arrangements should have been made before parliament reopened to proceed to an immediate start of the electoral process, according to the Senate led by Bernard Sansaricq. To all these questions, the minister of the interior responds that it is not a question of opening a box and coming out with a ready-made solution. Do not tell us what to do, just let us do it, he exclaimed. The minister of the interior of the ad hoc government further warned those legislators against any attempts to influence Judge Emile Jonassaint's policy. May each one work in the fields that he knows, he maintained. Moreover, Willio Nouailles added, and I quote: You have forced us into the ring, but please, let us act, let us have our own experiences. He offered a good political mathematics lesson to those legislators in terms of equations and tangents:

[Nouailles] It is necessary to make an equation, with at least eight unknowns. It is necessary to calculate intensities. It is necessary to make charts of variables. It is necessary to draw some curves. You want a muscular policy, an epidermic policy, a pocket policy. I indeed notice this haste, this great haste. Your president is a patriarch of 82 years. The pace that you impose on him is the kind that can break his neck. Haste is a bad adviser in this type of ruse. In any case, after eight years of drift, I would not want to see you impose on the provisional government the burden, all the weight, the entire cross of this huge, [word indistinct], tragedy. You must understand that this ad hoc government that you have formed finds itself [word indistinct] on a creation mission.

[Jean] Willio Nouailles thus demands more time to pursue his creative work. The government intends to create new democratic structures in the country and to take all the time necessary to prepare for future elections. Willio Nouailles stated before the Senate led by Bernard Sansaricq that the government is an ad hoc government, set up by an ad hoc senate for the national safeguard. The minister of the interior reminded them that the Senate was split in two and that the government did not have the recognition of the Chamber of Deputies.

Regarding the threats of foreign intervention, the minister of the interior and national defense said history honors us to fight the whole world. He added, however, one can be Dessalines or Capois La-Mort, but Vertieres is no longer possible in 1994. To the office led by Bernard Sansaricq, the minister of the interior and national defense exclaimed in these terms, quote: You have entrusted me with a battle that was lost in advance. Unquote. And so as not to leave room for the enemy, Willio Nouailles thinks he can still use the arm of dialectic.

[Nouailles] For a small country like Haiti, its struggle is dialectic, a philosophical struggle, a conceptualist struggle, a struggle at the level of methodology, at the analysis level. It is not a struggle in either open or closed fields. Even a guerrilla war is now impossible.

[Jean] In general, Willio Nouailles pleaded at length for the undertaking of power by the middle classes. In this respect, he praised the exploits of Dumarsais Estime and Francois Duvalier. Modern history makes the middle class accountable for politics in Haiti. He criticized the traditional bourgeoisie for having, according to him, formed a parallel government for the purpose of ruining the efforts of the provisional government. He was here referring to the ad interim Prime Minister Robert Malval. The minister of the interior and national defense further pointed out that it is up to the Army to determine the social class qualified to take power in Haiti. [end recording]

PFCRN Deputy Candidate Reportedly Murdered

PA0906025394 Mexico City Radio ACIR Network in Spanish 0052 GMT 9 Jun 94

[Report by Aide Cedeno in Michoacan from the "Panorama Newscast"—live]

[Text] Federal deputy candidate Margarito Manrique Saucedo, of the Cardenist Front for National Reconstruction Party [PFCRN] in Tacambaro district, died in a traffic accident earlier today, just 72 days before the federal election, announced Luis Martinez Cetina, president of the PFCRN National Executive Committee, charging Manrique, 36, had been murdered, as everything indicated he had been intentionally run down.

Luis Martinez said the alleged accident occurred in (Huatano), Michoacan, where the deceased was campaigning. As the candidate crossed a road, an unidentified pickup truck ran him down, killing him. Luis Martinez announced his party expects a thorough investigation of the facts and will demand justice. So far, no one has been identified as the alleged perpetrator or perpetrators of this crime, which occurred just hours ago.

Deadline for Compliance With Recommendations Set

PA0806235294 Mexico City Canal 13 Television Azteca Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Report by Jaime Guerrero from the "Early Morning" newscast]

[Text] Only 50 percent of the recommendations issued by the National Human Rights Committee [CNDH] are in compliance. In light of this situation, President Salinas set a 30-day deadline for the government and organizations to comply with the recommendations. Here is a report by Jaime Guerrero:

[Begin recording] [Guerrero] The leading problem the CNDH faces is that of partial compliance with its recommendations, but a statement issued today at Los Pinos presidential residence could be interpreted as a warning. The federal government might apply sanctions against those who do not fully comply with CNDH recommendations.

Several governors might be among those penalized. Jorge Madrazo has submitted his report. Madrazo said that during the past four years, the CNDH issued 796 recommendations, of which 51 percent were in partial compliance. As a result, a 30-day deadline was established for state governments and organizations to comply with CNDH recommendations. President Salinas has said the law will be applied to its fullest extent.

[Salinas] I urge state governors to join this national effort with a greater enthusiasm, and I urge the CNDH president to disclose, under a strict time limit, a new public report on the results of compliance with the recommendations. The last results have been referred here as negligent noncompliance.

[Guerrero] During the past year, the CNDH received approximately 9,000 complaints, of which human rights violations in prisons, abuse of authority, and arbitrary arrests head the list. Torture reportedly ranks 10th on the long list of violations nationwide.

[Madrazo] In the fight against torture, we have not had the resolute support of all governors or all judges. [end recording]

Armed Forces Deny Imposing 'Sieges' in Chiapas

PA0806222894 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0346 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Today, the Mexican Armed Forces stated they are conducting searches in Chiapas to prevent the traffic of weapons and explosives, denying media reports they had imposed "sieges" in that southeastern state.

"Searches are being conducted at the military checkpoints established in the area with the sole purpose of preventing the trafficking of weapons and explosives toward the conflict area," the National Secretariat of Defense stated.

The Armed Forces issued a communique to deny media reports they had imposed "restrictions," "sieges," and "quarantines" in an area where the conflict that began on 1 January is being resolved.

The Zapatist National Liberation Army concluded the first phase of a reconciliation dialogue with Manuel Camacho Solis, commissioner for peace and reconciliation in Chiapas, on 1 March.

The dialogue took place amid a virtual truce in San Cristobal de las Casas, 200 km southeast of Mexico City, following the unilateral cease-fire ordered by President Carlos Salinas de Gortari on 12 January.

The communique revealed that "the National Secretariat of Defense stated categorically" that since the unilateral cease-fire, the Armed Forces "have and will continue to facilitate" the transit of residents, goods, and medical attention.

PGR Notes Increased Ammunition Seizures

PA0806183494 Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 6 Jun 94 p 46

[Report by Ricardo Olayo]

[Text] The Attorney General's Office (PGR) has reported that in the current year it has seized 60,000 rounds of small arms ammunition of various calibers. The quantity seized is double that seized—28,397 rounds—during the period December 1988 to December 1993, according to the institution.

The two most recent PGR operations took place between 28 May and 4 June, in which its personnel managed to seize more than 28,544 rounds of ammunition in several actions in the country. Both reports indicate that Nogales, Sonora, is where the PGR has arrested the most gunrunners.

During the operations, which were conducted over the period of a week, PGR personnel managed to seize almost as many rounds of ammunition as were seized during the past 61 months of the current government administration.

Statistics provided by the Deputy Attorney General's Office for Delegations and Inspection Units [Subprocuraduria de Delegaciones y Visitaduria] also show that during the current year, 537 weapons and approximately 800 vehicles were seized from alleged criminals; many of them linked to drug trafficking activities. The weapons seized have been detected at road checkpoints (precos), airports, and during investigations of drug trafficking groups.

Regarding the entry of weapons and ammunition into the country, the PGR has reported that the corresponding investigations are under way to learn the origin and destination of the shipments, as well as the identity of the persons involved. In most cases, the PGR has not revealed the names of the alleged criminals so as not to hinder the investigations.

PGR statistics establish that it has seized 60,156 rounds of ammunition during the period 1 January-5 June 1994. Up to a few days ago, the PGR had seized 31,712 cartridges. In its two most recent operations, however, the PGR seized 28,544 rounds, thus increasing the amount to more than 60,000 live rounds.

The largest amount of ammunition was seized during the week of 28 May, when 18,385 rounds were impounded and three persons were arrested during the two operations carried out in Jalisco and Tamaulipas. Later, the PGR seized a shipment of 9,400 rounds loaded on a van with California State license plates, at the 49-km marker on the Jalisco-Nogales international highway.

PGR members also managed to impound a shipment of 7,676 rounds of various calibers and seven weapons last week. The shipment was being transported by Ramon Isordia Pedroza and Jose Zepeda Mora and was discovered at the 21-km checkpoint on the Hermosillo-Nogales international highway.

Defense Industry Production, Army Program Viewed

PA0806172594 Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 6 Jun 94 pp 1, 17

[Article by Jose Arnada]

[Text] The Secretariat of National Defense (Sedna), as part of its modernization plan during this 6-year administration, purchased from 1989 to June this year, 2,321 Hummer vehicles, 60 combat trucks, 1,307 diverse vehicles, 38 transportation and training planes, as well as 26 riot units.

According to official information, in order to equip their "operations with greater efficiency," the institution purchased in 1993, 260 Hummers—a purchase that caused a storm—1,471 vehicles, 549 machine guns, approximately 29,000 grenades of diverse types, and 2,478 grenade launchers for automatic rifles.

In addition, to guarantee the timely supply of weapons to the Armed Forces and furnish support to its security forces, the defense industry in 1993 manufactured 70.8 percent more equipment than in 1992. A total of 1,725 automatic rifles, 164 machine guns, 1,640 light machine guns, and 3,390 automatic pistols were manufactured.

The Armed Forces have earmarked a 5.493 billion-new-peso budget. This amount is equal to the health sector's budget for this year, although it is less than the Secretariat of National Education's—approximately 24 billion new pesos—and that of the Secretariat of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources, with approximately 11 billion pesos.

Sedna reported that the Weapons' Unification Program achieved "significant progress" in 1993 by incorporating the functional reuse of rifles and light automatic rifles. This allowed the weapons supply for operational units in Military Regions 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, and 10 to be supplemented.

In addition, the current updating of the Army and Air Forces strategic plans has resulted in improved operational control and coordination of the diverse territorial mandates and military units. This includes air as well as land forces.

In 1993, the Army's regional deployment was reorganized with the creation of the 37th Military Zone, the jurisdictional restructuring of Military Region 1 and of the 1st and 22d Military Zones. This has enhanced the operational coordination of the units assigned to these zones.

According to the National Development Program, "the great national tasks" require the participation of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force.

In addition to its "primary responsibility"—the defense of the nation—the Armed Forces must participate in the overall development of the nation. This is accomplished by safeguarding democratic institutions and protecting natural resources and the strategic installations for security and the nation's economy.

The plan holds that in terms of political issues, the Army's mission is to defend the principles of sovereignty and nationalism, respect for liberty, support for democracy, the rejection of intervention, and defense of the peoples' right to self-determination.

With regard to the economic sector, it will support the nation's overall development. In the social sector, the Army will share the commitment to raise the people's level of well-being.

The document highlights that for the Army "to accomplish its missions with greater efficiency," permanent revamping of its organization, equipment, and military capabilities will be necessary.

When Antonio Riviello Bazan, national defense secretary, recently referred to the purchase of military equipment, he assured that the riot units and the Hummer vehicles had been ordered "some time back." These, he said, will be used "solely for defense," within the limits outlined by "the law on respect for human rights."

El Salvador

Calderon Sol Vows To Fulfill Peace Accords

PA0906030694 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 0430 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Interview with President Armando Calderon Sol in San Salvador via satellite by announcer Jacobo Zabludovsky at the XEW Television studios in Mexico City; from the "24 Hours" newscast—live]

[Text] [Zabludovsky] Thank you, Mr. President, for agreeing to this interview. As you complete your third week in office, what do you think the main challenge for your government will be?

[Calderon Sol] The main challenge I face is national reconstruction—the reconstruction of the country. After overcoming the violence and destruction of the war, we must now move into the phase of rebuilding the nation.

This does not only include the material reconstruction effort, but also the moral and spiritual reconstruction. We must affirm the state of law, guarantee justice, and ensure the authority of the law. We must seek mutual respect among all people. We have just been through 12 long years of institutionalized violence in this country, and therefore our efforts must be directed at changing the people's ideas, conceptions, and attitudes toward effective law enforcement. This is an enormous task, but we are sure we will be successful in rebuilding El Salvador, both physically and morally.

[Zabludovsky] You promised to fulfill the peace agreements to the letter. Now that there is a new timetable, how do you expect to deal with the situation?

[Calderon Sol] President Cristiani wanted to clear his desk, as he put it, before he left office, and therefore he rescheduled the agreements in order to have specific dates for what was still pending. The new timetable is very specific, and I will comply with it to the letter.

It is my political determination to complete the peace process. The peace agreements are truly a national commitment, and I am willing to meet that commitment faithfully. The rescheduling will make it easier to comply within the new deadlines. We have said time and time again that we will fulfill the peace agreements, because they ensure the social peace and political stability that we long for in El Salvador.

[Zabludovsky] The civil war caused thousands of deaths and brought destruction and bitterness. What do you think needs to be done in El Salvador to prevent another civil war?

[Calderon Sol] Our civil war had so very much to do with the international situation. Our war became an international affair. Please remember that El Salvador, as was true for the rest of Central America, lived the end of the Cold War and the East-West struggle. Remember that El Salvador became a bastion of Cuban aggression in Central America. This is a tangible, clear, and undeniable fact demonstrated by the shipments of weapons—thousands of tons of them—that flowed into Central America during the bipolar Cold War. Thank goodness all this is over now.

This, of course, does not mean there were no other problems. There are problems even now, and there will always be problems, such as poverty, for example. Poverty is worse now than in the past, because the war brought more poverty with it. Today's challenge is to rebuild, produce, and develop the nation while promoting human advancement. That is what lies ahead. Now that the war is behind us and the pain is gone, let us make El Salvador that country we all dream and hope for.

[Zabludovsky] Would you like to add anything more, Mr. President?

[Calderon Sol] Mr. Zabludovsky, it is a real pleasure to chat with you, especially knowing that thousands of Salvadorans are watching your program, and not only in Mexico—that wonderful country of yours—but also in the United States, Canada, and so many other countries in which this prestigious program is broadcast. It is truly a pleasure to address the thousands of Salvadorans who live abroad and work day and night to provide for their families and send a little something home to build a better future for El Salvador. Soon all of these families will be reunited.

Let me say this to the thousands Salvadorans living away from the fatherland: We are working to allow you to come home to a new El Salvador. Let me also say that you have a government and a president who think about you all of the time, hoping for the reunification of the Salvadoran family.

Guatemala

Government, URNG Fail To Reach Accord

PA0806174494 Guatemala City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 4 Jun 94 p 7

[Article by Elder Interiano]

[Text] Hector Rosada, coordinator of the Guatemalan Government peace commission, said yesterday the government and the guerrillas for the second time have failed to reach agreement on the issue of uprooted Guatemalans, although the foundation of a subsequent agreement was laid. This is why a third meeting will be held next week in Mexico, he added.

The government official was in Puebla, Mexico, on 1 and 2 June heading the official delegation that held a "small meeting" with the commanders of the insurgent Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG), because during the first round of talks they failed to reach a consensus. On that occasion, Rosada maintained the negotiations were not broken.

A CERIGUA news agency report points out the differences of opinions and the difficulties in reaching a consensus after the government delegation rejected the

proposal by the Civilian Society Assembly (ASC) were the reasons why the negotiations failed. The Ramiro De Leon Carpio government rejected the report and accused CERIGUA of attributing statements to the URNG commanders, thus justifying its position that the URNG is "politicizing" the human rights issue.

Rosada said yesterday there were positive results on a possible agreement in the meeting with the URNG, but they agreed to meet next week in Mexico to sign a document on the uprooted people, a controversial issue at the negotiations. He pointed out that during the meeting there was an exchange of opinions within a framework of mutual "respect and resolve," which the insurgent commanders recognized.

Although Rosada refused to give details of the issues discussed during these conversations, he stressed that the cease-fire in the area of Ixcan, Quiche Department, was indeed discussed. This step constitutes a preliminary action in light of the complete disarmament in December 1994, the rejoining of political life by the guerrillas as a peace agreement is being signed, and the ASC human rights proposal.

The official recalled that any decision made during the meeting does not mean the irrefutable signing of an agreement, because this signing will take place in Oslo, Norway, as the discussions to find out the truth begin. Rosada added that should we fail to reach an agreement on the uprooted people, "the government commission would be unwilling to recognize other proposals."

Nicaragua

Occupation of Venezuelan Embassy, Cathedral Ends

PA0806135494 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1144 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Managua, 8 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—The seizure of the Venezuelan Embassy in Managua, with five diplomats inside, by 23 former Sandinist military ended today following 11 hours of tension and negotiations as the Nicaraguan Government pledged to discuss the occupiers' petitions for compensation.

Another group of at least 20 former military, who also demanded compensation for being discharged in the past four years, also ended the takeover of the Managua Cathedral. The seizure of the cathedral occurred almost at the same time and was also peaceful.

Diogenes Silva, assigned to the embassy's military attache office, confirmed that the former military had left and said that "control of the diplomatic office" had been regained. Ambassador Juan Jose Monsant and four other diplomats remained inside the embassy, which is located on the outskirts of Managua.

Moments later, Donald Flores—one of the former military who seized the cathedral and led a similar action in 1993—also confirmed his partners had left the church.

Kidder Salazar, first secretary of the Venezuelan Embassy, told ACAN-EFE during the occupation that he and the other diplomats did not stay there as hostages, but to protect the embassy. The former military—who were unarmed—released two employees who were also at the embassy after several hours.

Also on Tuesday, other former military seized and occupied the Italian Embassy in Managua and the UN building for several hours.

Following the civil war and the demobilization of thousands of combatants, there were two simultaneous abductions of political leaders and high-ranking officials in Nicaragua last year. Former contras were responsible for one of the abductions in northern Nicaraguan while Sandinists were responsible for the other abduction in the capital. In 1993, another heavily armed anti-Sandinist command seized and occupied the Nicaraguan Embassy in Costa Rica for two weeks.

Today's occupation was solved around midnight, local time (0600 GMT), after Vilma Nunez, director of the Nicaraguan Center for Human Rights, and Monsignor Eddy Montenegro, of the Managua Archbishopric, mediated the conflict. Both assured that the government had agreed to begin conversations within two days with the former military, thereby allowing the solution of the cathedral's occupation.

A letter from Alfredo Mendieta, justice minister, to Nunez and Montenegro, announced that the government accepted the negotiation and in addition would release seven former military who had been arrested. In exchange, however, the minister demanded that the military leave "immediately the embassy and the cathedral."

In the negotiations it was agreed to create a commission to discuss the retired military's claims. The commission will have two representatives of the "Movement for a Fair and Honorable Compensation," Eduardo Hernandez and Adrian Calero. According to the government commitment, compensation will be negotiated for an unspecified number of retired military based on the October 1993 agreements. At that time the cathedral was also occupied by discontented former Sandinist military. Vilma Nunez and Monsignor Montenegro will act as mediators again in the negotiations. The government also accepted the diplomatic mission occupants' demand that no reprisals would be taken against members of the movement.

Donald Flores, leader of the former military, declared that he hoped that the "actions aimed at a peaceful solution" of their demands for compensation for their years of service, had concluded.

Nevertheless, Frank Cesar, deputy government minister, said before the agreement was reached, that they have no right to any compensation and that some of the former military "had been involved in criminal actions," while others already had collected their compensation and continue to work in government institutions. The official

assured that the previous Sandinist regime had fired hundreds of military who served in the former Interior Ministry; the majority now are demanding compensation to which they have no right. He explained that in February, 785 persons received their compensation although it appears that 1,000 were demobilized from the Interior Ministry, the majority before April 1990 when Violeta Chamorro took office.

Cuba's Castro Congratulates FSLN's D. Ortega

PA0906045094 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 7 Jun 94 p 4

[Letter of congratulations from Cuban President Fidel Castro to Daniel Ortega, secretary general of the Nicaraguan Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN, dated 24 May]

[Text] Havana, 24 May 1994, 36th year of the revolution.

Comrade Daniel Ortega Saavedra

Secretary General

Sandinist National Liberation Front

Dear Daniel:

Allow me to express my most fraternal congratulations for your recent election as FSLN secretary general.

The special congress that recently ended was, undoubtedly, an expression of maturity, particularly of the unity preserved by that political organization during the most difficult stages of struggle through which it has historically journeyed.

That event blazes a path of hope for the organization in its continuous efforts to accomplish the objectives of genuine and full social justice, results to which it has committed decades of struggle, as well as the valuable blood of its martyrs.

Under international circumstances as complex as the present, where a unipolar world under the hegemony of the United States has taken shape, the will, fortitude for struggle, and faith in the people's victory is tested.

I would like to convey my congratulations to all the comrade delegates to the congress, the Sandinist Assembly, and the elected National Directorate.

An embrace,

[Signed] Fidel Castro Ruz.

Panama

Government Protests DEA Meeting With Police

PA0806161094 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Jun 94 p 2A

[By Orlando Mendieta]

[Text] The Government of Panama has protested to the U.S. Embassy because DEA agents held a meeting—without prior Panamanian authorization—at the border area of Puerto Obaldia with Colombian and Panamanian police officers to gather information on subversion and narcotics trafficking.

A Foreign Ministry document that contains a protest note from the Panamanian Government to the U.S. Government says that the meeting was held in the area of Puerto Obaldia, San Blas Indian territory. The note points out that the meeting was held on 15 and 16 November 1992 when DEA agents Luis Mercado and Isaac Gallegos went to Puerto Obaldia and met with Colombian and Panamanian police officers.

During this meeting, which was not authorized by Panama, the DEA agents covered subjects such as narcotics trafficking, subversion, communications, weapons, police coordination between Panama and Colombia, and public health problems. According to the note, agents Mercado and Gallegos also visited several government offices in Puerto Obaldia, without receiving authorization from Panamanian officials or from the officials responsible for the various areas.

The Panamanian Foreign Ministry note advises the United States that all meetings of U.S. officials in Panama must be authorized first by Panamanian officials. The note adds that such actions could lead to an incident, inasmuch as the national authorities have orders not to allow foreign officials from holding meetings in national territory or gathering information without the prior authorization of the officials in charge.

President-Elect Wants 'Adjustment' of Foreign Debt Payments

PA0906044994 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Report by Fernando Fernandez from the "RPC Television News" newscast]

[Text] President-elect Ernesto Perez Balladares has stated that it is unfair for the incoming administration to have to pay for the current government's inability to meet its obligations with the international financial institutions [IFI's].

The president-elect made his statements following a meeting with recently elected PRD [Revolutionary Democratic Party] legislators and members of the future cabinet, who will take office as of 1 September. The meeting was designed to coordinate future government policies between the executive and judicial branches during the transition period.

According to Perez Balladares, the government's announced budget cuts should not affect the incoming administration.

[Begin Perez Balladares recording] I believe it is unfair that our incoming administration should be the one to pay for the current administration's inability to meet its debt obligations. In this respect, it seems to me that the best approach would be to meet with the IFI's and agree on an adjustment and reform program that takes into account the nation'ssocial needs. I am quite sure Planning Minister Guillermo Chapman is of the same opinion and will discuss the issue with the IFI's in due time. [end recording]

Argentina

Agricultural Bodies Declare 'State of Alert'

PY0806234994 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1525 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jun (NA)—Having assessed that the lengthy meeting they held with Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo had not yielded any concrete results, the country's four agricultural organizations reported that the agricultural sector has been placed "on a state of alert."

In a press communique released on 8 June, the organizations asserted that their "leaders have voiced and endorsed the producers' understandable impatience," and warned that "farmers are running out of time in their quest for political solutions."

The Argentine Agrarian Federation (FAA), the Argentine Rural Association (SRA), the Argentine Rural Confederations (CRA), and Coninagro [Agricultural-Livestock Intercooperative Confederation] signed a document urging "the rural population to keep alert on the latest developments in negotiations."

Despite the fact that following the five-hour meeting with Cavallo the agricultural organizations' leaders seemed to be more satisfied with the official promise to undertake an in-depth study of the agricultural situation, as time went by and meetings with delegates followed one another, agricultural producers' representatives became convinced that those promises were insufficient.

Thus, during the late hours of 7 June, Humberto Volando, Manuel Cabanellas, Eduardo de Zavalia, and Leonidas Gassoni [the presidents of FAA, CRA, SRA, and Coninagro respectively] were of one mind about the need to be alert to the unfolding of negotiations with the government. They moreover acknowledged that they had left the meeting at the Economy Ministry empty-handed.

Despite this the communique stresses that "a lengthy analysis of the questions raised" was made at the meeting, and that "there was some significant agreement with regard to some issues, while strides were made concerning others. Yet no definite conclusions were reached. The minister committed himself to continue to work on the subject and offer concrete solutions."

Pensioners Protest Fund's Transfer to Government

PY0706181694 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1050 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Text] Santiago del Estero, 7 Jun (NA)—Santiago del Estero's Pension Fund was taken over peacefully by about 300 people, including pensioners, to reject the organization's imminent transfer to the national administration.

Daniel Cejas, president of the pensioner and retired people coordinating board, announced that the group will resist the government attempt to transfer the Pension Fund to the nation "to the final results."

"The peaceful takeover that started around 0700 will continue until federal trustee (Juan) Schiaretti shows up to listen to the people and pensioners," Cejas said.

On 6 June, in the largest protest demonstration since the social outburst in December, some 3,000 people marched in front of the federal trustee's office to repudiate the transfer of the Pension Fund to the national administration and the Savings and Loan Fund's reorganization.

According to the administration headed by Schiaretti, a native of Cordoba Province, the Pension Fund runs a deficit of about 5 million pesos per month, or 60 million pesos a year, and needs an in-depth reorganization.

Cejas in turn denied the deficit and warned: "The people of Santiago are mad and ready to resist this bad government. We spoke with many ministers and all of them gave us half answers. This is why we want to talk with Schiaretti."

Article Views Problems Facing Economic Program

PY0706223894 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1747 GMT 4 Jun 94

[Special report for NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS by Daniel Casal]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Jun (NA)—The economic plan must face and overcome such obstacles as the lack of profitability among regional economies, the threat of a recession, the new international financial context, and the requirements arising from the political situation in the run-up to the elections.

These obstacles are inextricably intertwined since the provinces are unable to ease their situation, which is provoked by increased relative prices and the difficulties of marketing their products.

The showcase was Tierra del Fuego Province, which has a flourishing economy under the protection of a moribund Industrial Promotion System.

Difficulties arising from other causes, but with similar consequences are found throughout the country—be it the other Patagonian provinces, the northwest, or the northeast.

The country is haunted by the ghost of recession over setting the production machinery in motion. This recession could be staved off by strengthening the domestic market or by increasing exports.

The former possibility seems, however, to have reached a point of counter-production, given the reiterated call to increase domestic savings.

Hence, the only alternative is to increase our exports, although we are still trying to increase our productive capacity to a point where we can place our products on the international market at more competitive prices.

The search for increased factory capacity is weighing heavily on the trade balance deficit, which is an ominous warning for the near future.

The possibility of devaluing the peso has been totally ruled out. This move would cause hundreds of bankruptcies because the indebtedness of the private sector. Thus the exchange rate should be improved through a reduction of costs.

The recent hike in public utility rates was not only instrumental in checking the trend toward reducing costs, it also helped to ease the May inflation above zero percent.

The immediate move of economic authorities will be an all-out offensive to reduce labor costs and to restore the provincial administrations' economies.

There are also plans to scare off the ghost of recession, which would undermine the basis of one of the most vital tools of the convertibility plan—namely, the level of tax revenues.

Housing development plans were designed to boost the construction industry, which is undoubtedly the driving force of the economy and which generates many new openings.

The present international financial market is hampering the normal avenues into which investment projects are generally channeled and is obliging the government to devise a panoply of ideas to boost the construction industry.

If the United States had not had the wonderful idea of betting on its growth and had decided against increasing interest rates to prevent an overheating of the country's inflation, the international situation would have continued favorable for Argentina.

Yet, the Clinton administration bet on growth and consequently placed a question mark on the entry of foreign capital into Argentina based on the danger of a possible increase in domestic interest rates and consequently, a slowdown in Argentina's economic growth.

Following the same line of reasoning, it would be of paramount importance for the government to signal that it will try to reduce its trade deficit as a way to obtain genuine foreign currency, and thus ease the scarcity of foreign financial resources.

To conclude, several economists have warned of the risks that political needs may entail for the economy.

Ricardo Lopez Murphy from the Radical Civic Union [UCR] believes the Constituent Assembly is the worst thing that could have befallen the Argentine economy. Lopez Murphy shares the views of Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo. He utters things that, to some extent, may be interpreted as the expression of Cavallo's thinking.

Cavallo is concerned about the outcome of the Constituent Assembly, the power to be vested in the coordination minister, and the concessions that may be granted to the provinces.

The 1995 presidential elections are on the horizon, and it has already been warned that there might be an increase in government spending to attract votes to the ruling party.

Nevertheless, the Economy Ministry is well aware that the Convertibility Plan was the most effective weapon in the last elections, and therefore, will avoid any possible chaos in public accounts.

As another UCR economist—former Central Bank President Jose Luis Machinea—said: "The best social program the government can implement is to try to stave off recession."

Machinea added that the only way the government can meet this objective is "by increasing exports by an average 15 percent per annum."

Menem Signs Declaration Supporting Press Freedom

PY0706134994 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2255 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Jun (NA)—President Carlos Menem stressed on 6 June that his administration "has demonstrated, with facts, our respect for and our belief in the freedom of the press." He noted that the freedom of the press "is incompatible with any type of totalitarianism."

Menem also asked journalists "to report in a responsible way." He said the media's credibility "is linked to its commitment to the truth."

The president made these remarks during a speech he delivered in Government House's White Hall while signing the Chapultepec Declaration, a list of principles for freedom of the press that was released on 11 March by the Inter-American Press Association [IAPA] in Chapultepec.

During the signing ceremony, which was attended by publishers from Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, and the United States, IAPA President Raul Kraiselburd delivered a speech. Kraiselburd noted: "In the great battles fought in the continent to preserve the democratic system, the restoration of freedom of the press represented a goal for very different and competing groups."

Menem stressed that "the freedom of respect and of the press" prevailing under his administration "has not been

and will not be changed because we understand there cannot be any democratic system without freedom of the press."

Menem pointed out: "We heartily support Thomas Jefferson's remark that 'it is preferable to have freedom of the press without a government than a government without freedom of the press' and, in this regard, we demonstrated our belief by accepting, without any type of censorship, the harshest and most pungent criticism ever received by any president in the Argentine Republic."

Menem stressed: "The gates to information were always open. If there was any friction and, sometimes, bumps with the journalists, it was more because of abundant information than lack of information."

Menem added that the Chapultepec Declaration "therefore represents for us a logical result, supported by the goal of having this freedom of the press now prevailing in Argentina equally prevail in all American countries and in the entire world as a basic guarantee for human rights."

Menem stressed: "The freedom of the press is incompatible with any type of totalitarianism. Totalitarianism cannot tolerate freedom of the press because it would be tantamount to tolerating criticism, and history has demonstrated to us that totalitarianism are more prone to self-criticism, which always comes late and in a more cushioned way."

Concerning the Chapultepec Declaration, Menem emphasized that "no one will be allowed to force a journalist to reveal his or her sources of information" and that "no one may impair or deny the right to seek or receive information, that there may not be any censorship before publication, that there may not be any forced association, and that the freedom of the press may not be impaired through tariff policies or paper and advertising control policies."

Menem pointed out: "Nevertheless, this declaration also points out that the media's credibility is linked to its commitment to the truth."

At the end of his message, Menem said: "Some day I will no longer be president. I will have to resume my private activities. We basically want democracy to continue prevailing and liberty to continue increasing, and, within this framework, we want Argentina to regain the place it was able to occupy in other periods of its institutional life."

Brazil

Finance Minister Reaches Agreement With Farmers

PY0906023194 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Finance Minister Rubens Ricupero has announced new decisions regarding the real currency. Ricupero, who met with the Chamber of Deputies Economy Committee, came to seek guarantees that farmers would continue to produce food. Today it was agreed that the government will renegotiate the farmers' debts, and give them up to 10 years to repay. The government will likewise pay the overdue farming insurance debts and suspend for three months the Bank of Brazil lawsuits against farmers in arrears.

During a luncheon with commerce representatives, Ricupero explained the implementation of the new currency. During this luncheon he gave advance notice of some of the points of the economic plan:

Credits: The government will not adopt any measure to reduce consumption of goods like cars and household appliances.

Interest rates: They will continue to be high until the economy reaches stability.

Contracts: Those in real cruzeiros will be converted into URV's [real value units] based on the URV rate of 1 July.

Ufir [Reference Fiscal Unit]: It will not be abolished. It will continue to index income tax paid in advance and overdue taxes.

Postdated checks: Banks will accept checks written in real cruzeiros until 1 August.

Union Leader Joins Cardoso Presidential Campaign

PY0806035194 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 1917 GMT 7 Jun 94

[By Marta Salomon and Guilherme Evelin]

[Text] Brasilia, 7 Jun (AE)—Union Force secretary general Emilson Simoes de Moura, nicknamed Alemao, today joined the campaign command of presidential candidate Fernando Henrique Cardoso. Alemao promised to obtain the support of 800 unions affiliated with Union Force, which is led by Luiz Antonio de Medeiros, the Popular Party's candidate for governor of Sao Paulo State. Union Force has chosen not to lend its support to any one candidate.

Alemao said: "I feel absolutely comfortable with the coalition and with [former Bahia Governor] Antonio Carlos Magalhaes, who is a democrat and who is altogether different from those Stalinists and Lula supporters who advocate crime as an instrument of political struggle." Alemao believes that if Lula is elected there will be no investments in the country to create jobs. "It will bring tragic consequences for all workers," he said.

Endorsing the principles of the Brazilian Social Democracy Party-Liberal Front Party-Brazilian Labor Party coalition, Alemao defends the internationalization of the Brazilian economy. He said: "This is why we are against Lula." Alemao is in favor of ending the state monopoly of oil and of privatizing state-owned companies.

Alemao's first suggestion to Cardoso is to increase the goal of creating 8 million jobs during his four-year tenure. "That is not enough," Alemao said. He refused to admit that the economic stabilization program promoted by Cardoso will worsen unemployment in the country. He said: "One cannot state that the Real Plan is provoking unemployment."

Although confirming that unions affiliated with Union Force will support Cardoso, Alemao made it clear that Cardoso will not use its facilities in his campaign. "We have sound trucks, but Cardoso will not use them," he said, criticizing once again the involvement of CUT [Sole Workers Center] affiliated unions in Lula's campaign. He said: "CUT has been completely overtaken."

Asked if he would hold the post of labor minister if Cardoso wins the election, Alemao said he would rather take the reins of the economy. He said jokingly: "I would prefer to be the finance minister." Cardoso declined to comment on this issue. He said: "I will not discuss the formation of my cabinet at this time."

Lula Favors Creating National Public TV Network

PY0906032694 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 2229 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Cachoeiro de Itapemirim, Espirito Santo, 8 Jun (AE)—If elected president, PT [Workers Party] candidate Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva wants to create a public television channel to counterbalance the "monopoly of the great private broadcasting companies." Today he defended the creation of a public broadcasting company reaching from "Oiapoque [Amapa State] to Chui [Rio Grande do Sul State]," and asked, referring to the owners of the television networks: "How is it that one citizen alone can speak to 80 million Brazilians?"

Lula mentioned the "TV Cultura" station of Sao Paulo as an ideal model for the new public station. "I want a television channel transmitting serious reports to counterbalance the large television networks, a channel that will broadcast something more than commercial programs."

The PT candidate criticized the excessive violence shown on television, and said that in Brazil 90 percent of the media is in the hands of nine families. He also criticized the rules used to grant television station licenses. "Every town in the interior has a former deputy, a former governor, who owns a radio or television channel," he complained.

Lula guarantees that the new television channel—which would be created by reformulating TV Educativa—would not be just another public television station serving merely to increase the federal government's payroll. "I want to take advantage of what already exists in several states, and transmit a uniform national programming," he said.

Poll Examines Reasons for Backing Candidates

PY0706213794 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 5 Jun 94 Section 1 p 8

[Article by Marcelo Mendonca]

[Excerpt] PSDB [Brazilian Social Democracy Party] presidential candicate Fernando Henrique Cardoso has become a hostage of the economic plan that he implemented while he was still heading the Finance Ministry. Figures from the last Datafolha poll conducted on 23 and 24 May show that the voters' main reason for supporting the PSDB candidate is the Real Plan. This is this year's first national survey by Datafolha about the motivations for voting.

In addition to linking the creator to the creature, Cardoso's voters also hope that their votes will ensure the continuity of the plan if he succeeds President Franco.

In second place, with 17 percent of voters' preferences, Cardoso is also chosen by his voters because he is "efficient" (11 percent) and "honest" (11 percent).

This imbalance in the motivation for voting, which weighs heavily on only one factor, is deemed risky by experts in political marketing. The possibility of a failure of the economic plan could destroy the former minister's chances at the ballot boxes.

Even with no certainty about the economic situation, the economic plan is already a problem for the candidate. The complaint that the Real Plan "is not functioning" already is the main reason for rejecting the PSDB candidate (27 percent). The impression that he "made up the plan to become a candidate" represents the reason for 8 percent of the voters rejecting him.

The leading candidate in the Datafolha poll, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva (PT) [Workers Party], with 40 percent of voters' preferences, has inspired a more balanced motivation among his voters. Their main reason to vote for Lula is that he has been "a poor man, a worker" (17 percent). This is closely followed by "representing the workers" (16 percent), and a chance "to try something new" (12 percent).

The main reason for rejecting Lula is his "lack of ability to govern the country" (15 percent). The leftist radicalism that his campaign has been trying to soften still marks his image in the eyes of the voters: 13 percent of those who reject him believe he is an "agitator" who promotes strikes; and 8 percent that he "is a Communist."

The main reasons for voters to support Quercia, the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] candidate (8 percent); Brizola, the PDT [Democratic Labor Party] candidate (7 percent); and Esperidiao Amin, the PPR [Progressive Renewal Party] candidate (3 percent) is that "they have been good governors" in their states. [passage omitted]

Franco Signs Law Punishing Use of Swastikas

PY0806025094 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 2023 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Report by correspondent Sonia Silva]

[Text] Brasilia, 7 Jun (AE)—President Itamar Franco today signed a law establishing prison terms of from two to five years to those found guilty of manufacturing, marketing, distributing, or disseminating symbols, emblems, ornaments, badges, or advertisement using swastikas with a view toward fomenting Nazism. The new law, which is designed to stop acts of violence perpetrated by neo-Nazi groups in Brazil, will become part of Law 7716, which defines the crimes of racism and discrimination.

Deputy Alberto Goldman (Brazilian Democratic Movement Party-Sao Paulo State), who proposed the bill, estimates that there are at least 13 neo-Nazi groups in Brazil. He cited the "White Power" and the "ABC Skinheads" in Sao Paulo. In May, four men armed with knives and handguns tattooed swastikas on a 14-year-old girl who responds to the initials N.M.P.L. in Taubate, Sao Paulo State. The men had swastikas tattooed on their faces. The law may be used to bring aggravating circumstances in assault and battery cases.

Goldman said: "By displaying swastika symbols, these groups are clearly revealing a menacing attitude, using force and brutality to discriminate against and affect certain social groups such as blacks, Jews, residents of northeastern Brazil, and homosexuals." He does not believe the new law is violating freedom of expression. He added: "Freedom of expression promotes ideological debate and democratic discussions, while swastikas are used to foment racism and intolerance."

Chile

Swiss Minister 'Annoyed' by Pinochet's Presence

PY0806145594 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1137 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Bern, 8 Jun (EFE)—Swiss Foreign Minister Flavio Cotti said he is "deeply annoyed" by the presence of Chilean Army Commander General Augusto Pinochet in Switzerland.

According to today's issue of LUZERNER NEUSTEN NACHRICHTEN, Cotti said he understands the indignation of Chileans living in Switzerland.

Cotti regretted there is no longer the juridical possibility of preventing Pinochet from entering the country.

Pinochet's stay in Lucerne on 7 June caused protests by the Green Alliance, the Swiss Socialist Youth, the Swiss Council for Peace, and the Work Group for Arms Control and the Prohibition of Arms Exports because, according to some information, the Chilean Army is reportedly interested in buying weapons.

Green Alliance Deputy Cecile Buhlmann said Gen. Pinochet should be considered an "undesirable person in Switzerland" and that she would questioned the Lucerne Legislature about his visa permit.

Deputies Ask for Report on Pinochet's Trips

PY0806173894 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0413 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Santiago, 7 Jun (EFE)—Government and opposition deputies agreed today to ask the Defense Ministry to explain how it financed the trip being made by Army Commander General Augusto Pinochet to the Czech Republic and other European countries.

The initiative was approved by 50 votes in favor, 12 votes against by the ultra-conservative Independent Democratic Union (UDI), and six abstentions.

Pinochet, who governed Chile from 1973 to 1990, currently is in Lucerne, Switzerland, where he arrived on 4 June from Prague after a five-day visit to the Czech Republic, a country he entered by car from The Netherlands.

Socialist Deputy Jaime Naranjo said: "It is an obligation to know how Pinochet's trip to Eastern Europe is being financed." But UDI Congressman Francisco Bertolucci said the idea is to make the Army commander "uncomfortable."

Asked about the request, Defense Minister Edmundo Perez Yoma said that "so far we have not received the request," and that Pinochet "was given the treatment in Prague he deserves as an individual and as Army commander. Everything was normal."

Perez added that the visit to the Czech Republic was "official and institutional." He added that there was "never" a plan for him to visit Russia, and that he does not know when Pinochet will return to Chile.

After leaving the government on 11 March 1990, Pinochet made several trips through Latin America, Europe, and South Africa. These types of trips were practically prohibited to him when he headed the military regime due to the accusations of continuous human right violations and the negative votes in this regard in all international meetings.

President Vows Not To Approve New Amnesty Law

PY0806114494 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1726 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Text] Santiago, 7 Jun (AFP-NA)—Official sources said on 7 June that Chilean President Eduardo Frei will not approve any "new amnesty law" to liberate military officers accused of violating human rights under the Augusto Pinochet regime.

More than 500 cases of assassination, kidnapping, and the disappearance of nearly 1,000 individuals who opposed Pinochet—whose regime extended from 1973

to 1990—were filed in court during the four years of Patricio Aylwin's administration, who was succeeded by Eduardo Frei.

"We support the principle that those found responsible by the courts should be punished," Secretary General of Government Victor Manuel Rebolledo said.

"A new amnesty law has not been contemplated," Rebolledo added, referring to the amnesty law promulgated by Pinochet in April 1978 freeing many of his agents from facing trials for crimes committed before that date.

One of those crimes was the assassination of former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier, who was killed by a bomb that exploded under his car in downtown Washington on 21 September 1976.

On 3 June, the Supreme Court refused to apply the amnesty law to absolve two of the main culprits in that crime, former intelligence chief General Manuel Contreras and Brigadier Pedro Espinoza, who were sentenced by a lower court to seven years in prison.

Frei Urges Governing Parties To Strengthen Coalition

PY0806172194 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0219 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Excerpt] Santiago, 6 Jun (EFE)—Chilean President Eduardo Frei today urged ministers and leaders from the Coalition of Parties for Democracy [CPPD] to strengthen the governing coalition, not to yield to populist temptations, and to explain the government's actions.

The president was the main speaker at the meeting between the government and CPPD leaders. The five-hour meeting was attended by ministers of state, government officials, and the main leaders of the governing coalition's parties.

In his speech, Frei said the Common Pact must be upheld without yielding to populist temptations, and reiterated that a high-quality, excellent, and also personalized government that works with the people must be consolidated.

Frei said: "The CPPD must be safeguarded and its influence extended throughout the country because this is the only way to ensure a spirit of consensus at a nationwide level."

The president warned that although opposition groups sometime adopt attitudes that promote conflicts and polarization, "the search for agreements that grant legitimacy and grandeur must be pursued."

He also mentioned the need to maintain a strict fiscal discipline and a sound macroeconomic policy and admitted that the current government, which came to power on 11 March, is subject to greater pressure than the previous administration because those demands that were made timidly have now become stronger.

Frei urged coalition leaders not to yield to populist temptations and asked them to reflect on the consequences of an irresponsible position in this regard.

Frei later accepted criticisms of his 21 May speech for failing to mention human rights, and added that he did not think it necessary to continue assessing the transition process and its problems.

He mentioned that it is obvious that in a responsible democratic system human rights should be fully respected and added that, regarding constitutional reforms, every possible effort will be made to make the institutions completely democratic since this is Chile's historical tradition.

Frei said an attitude of respect for the people in the written and common law must be strengthened and said that soon he will "solemnly and publicly" announce Chilean recognition of the women and men who gave their lives for their fellow citizens during the years of the military regime (1973-1990).

He added that the country will thus learn the testimony and examples set by church members, attorneys, and political and social leaders to whom, he said, we owe our appreciation. [passage omitted]

Exporters Urge Accord With Mercosur Countries

PY0806234594 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1737 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Santiago, 8 Jun (EFE)—Haroldo Venegas, director of the Chilean Association of Exporters of Nontraditional Manufactured Products (Asexma), reported today that the preferential treatment granted to Chilean exports within Mercosur [Common Market of the South] countries will expire in December. Chilean exports to Mercosur countries total about $1 billion.

The Chilean business leader added that, within this context, there is an urgent need for an association with Mercosur.

Venegas said that such association will mean Chilean products will not lose their competitiveness in the Mercosur market, which comprises 190 million people.

Chilean Foreign Minister Carlos Figueroa will meet today in Buenos Aires with Argentine Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella. During the meeting Figueroa will hand Di Tella a Chilean proposal for joining Mercosur—which comprises Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Asexma figures show that Chilean exports to Mercosur in 1993 totaled $1,089 billion, which represents 11.6 percent of all Chilean exports.

Commercial trade between Chile and Mercosur countries totaled $2,850 billion.

Some 74 percent of Chilean exports enter the Mercosur market under a system of preferential treatment that Chile negotiated at the bilateral level with each of the four Mercosur countries within the framework of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI).

In 1993, 80 percent of all Chilean exports to Argentina, the fourth most important Chilean commercial partner, were granted preferential treatment: Chilean exports to Argentina in 1993 totaled $588.9 million. The third [as received] most important Chilean commercial partner is Brazil: Some 95 percent of Chilean exports to Brazil, worth $407.1 million, were granted preferential treatment.

Venegas stated that if some kind of agreement is not negotiated, many products will be seriously effected in the Mercosur market because of high tariff rates—about 25 percent in Brazil and 20 percent in Argentina.

Colombia

Presidential Guard Creates Radio Station

PA0806214694 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Jun 94

[From the "National Newscast"]

[Text] The Army is competing with Santa Fe de Bogota radio stations that broadcast to young audiences. Radio station S5.9, created and run by soldiers of the Presidential Guard Battalion, is on the air beginning today.

The Presidential Guard Battalion no longer has to wake up to the sounds of reveille only. The soldiers now wake up to music played on 88.3 MHz, a frequency that identifies S5.9, a military radio station.

[Begin radio announcer Juan Carlos Ramirez recording] All of the equipment came from the Presidential Guard Battalion. In general, everyone ranging from colonels to captains contributed, including the soldiers. It all began when the soldiers started bringing their records. They brought their drawings representing the radio station. They brought microphones and equipment. The console came from the Presidential Guard Battalion. [end recording]

The radio station will reach all residents of Santa Fe de Bogota with variety shows, such as the War Tank, and the reveille beginning today. They hope to get civilians to listen to the radio station as well; this does not mean the radio station will ease up on military discipline. Here is what the colonel had to say:

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] Training is stronger now, but it is accompanied by psychology. These men are being trained so that when they finish their military career they can work in a radio or television station. [end recording]

Paraguay

Minister Views Need for Macroeconomic Stability

PY0806235194 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 8 Jun 94 p 13

[Text] Industry and Commerce Minister Ubaldo Scavone yesterday warned that without macroeconomic stability Paraguay will not receive the foreign financial assistance it needs to finance productive activities. He said this during his routine working lunch at the Paraguayan-American Chamber of Commerce.

The minister said that, contrary to past practices, the current government has decided to use new foreign loans to provide long-term financing for private activities. The minister said funds will be used to capitalize the Industrial Development Fund and the Peasant Development Fund.

Scavone said the government will use resources from an Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) "Sectorial Investment Program" loan. The minister said negotiations to obtain these funds means the fulfillment of rather harsh requirements on inflation control, the reduction of public spending, fiscal surplus, etc.

The government must take firm steps in the area of financial reform, the reorganization of the private banking system based on concrete indicators on risk and solvency, the creation of a capital market regulatory framework (to increase market credibility and to assure the trading of long-term titles), and the reform of the social security system.

The minister said: "Within the context of logical delays for such ambitious structural reforms, Paraguay will receive the $80 million it now has on free availability status. The country will also become eligible for numerous financial transactions that were denied us in the past."

Scavone said our financial system has many distortions that are expressed in high interest rates and short-term financial applications. He said distortions create high profit margins, high risk investment financing, and the neglect of projects that are needed for the country's development.

The minister regretted that everything that has been seen so far to improve the system has not encouraged more reforms or reduced financial costs. He said the system's inefficiency is strongly dependent on the regulatory framework, which is totally inappropriate for the development of a competitive banking system.

He cited as an example the fact that the total of $1.2 billion in deposits is distributed among 100 financial institutions, each one having an average deposit of $12 million. This makes it impossible to establish a competitive financial entity in Latin America today.

Scavone criticized: "This is largely due to the unequal treatment of financial entities which have fragmented the market, created unfair competition, and made efficient bank supervision difficult."

Peru

Legislators Protest U.S. Radar Removal Decision

PY0806144794 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 31 May 94 p A5

[Text] The U.S. Government decision to withdraw the radars used for the detection of drug traffickers' light planes entering Peru and Colombia created discontent and uncertainty in different political circles.

Legislators said the United States must assume its share of responsibility for the U.S. market's influence on drug trafficking activities in the region.

Foreign Relations Committee President Oswaldo Sandoval (NM-C90) [New Majority-Change 90] said it is difficult to explain why the country that consumes most of the drugs cannot take adequate measures to help producer nations.

"The issue is not how to resolve the problem in the United States but how to prevent our countries from producing the drug. We need all possible help for this struggle. It is inconsistent to withdraw the radars," Sandoval said.

The legislator stressed the importance of military operations to capture planes carrying drugs, which was possible precisely because of the support provided by those radars.

Sandoval said, however, that the radars are owned by the United States and the country has the right to withdraw them.

Concerning the report in Washington saying that the Peruvian Government has forbidden the entry of U.S. warplanes in our air space in answer to the radars' withdrawal, the legislator said the information was based on an unconfirmed press report.

Sandoval said Peru can take measures to make the U.S. Government understand that its cooperation is necessary.

"We are a very poor country to assume all the responsibility for a shared problem. The United States is also responsible. If it were not for the millions of consumers in that country our region would not produce as much drugs," Sandoval stressed.

Agreements Must Be Respected

Congressman Luis Enrique Tord (CD) [Democratic Coordinating Group] expressed surprise at the international treatment of an issue that concerns the entire world community, as is the case of drug enforcement. Tord said decisions made by governments on the issue must be consistent with their representatives' speeches.

Tord said more efforts are needed to control and dominate the scourge, and the United States should cooperate in this struggle with high technology.

Tord said the agreement for the installation and operation of radars in support of the Air Force to control the entry of drug traffickers' light planes into our territory should be respected.

The congressman added that the United States must clearly define its policies to support Peru.

"Peru must continuously remind the U.S. Government about the need to fulfill these types of agreements, which are closed after complex political and military conversations," the legislator stressed.

Regarding the downing of planes, which is opposed by U.S. authorities, Tord said the matter involves military, technical, and political decisions that must be reviewed.

Not Too Friendly Attitude

Congressman Henry Pease (MDI) [Democratic Left Movement] characterized the gesture of withdrawing the radars installed in Peru and Colombia without previous warning as not too friendly. The radars helped control the movement of planes carrying drugs in accordance with the drug enforcement agreement signed with the United States.

"Our Foreign Ministry should take the initiative in these and other matters to improve our relations and to prevent small conflicts from affecting our drug enforcement effort, which should be a priority for the country," Pease said.

In his opinion, Peru must demand fulfillment and take the initiative to fulfill what has been signed by the two governments.

Regarding the Peruvian decision to forbid the entry of U.S. AWACS and P-3 planes, Pease said the Air Force has the responsibility to watch over the national territory.

'No Express Ban' on Overflights by U.S. Planes

PY0806214494 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 31 May 94 p A5

[Text] Peruvian Air Force [FAP] spokesmen have asserted that there is no express ban on U.S. Air Force "AWACS" and "Orion" planes overflying Peruvian territory, as was stated in U.S. press reports.

The reports state that the alleged measure is a Peruvian "reprisal" to the U.S. decision to suspend the supply of information collected by these aircraft which is very necessary for the FAP to intercept traffickers' planes.

The consulted sources stated that the problem is simply that the U.S. South Command has not requested permission to enter Peruvian airspace.

Under international laws, no country can prohibit air traffic over its territory. All that is necessary is to request a permit and to state the route that will be followed.

The sources stated that the antinarcotic agreement, the part concerning the FAP, is still in force and this is why the radar sent by the Panama-based U.S. South Command is still in Yurimaguas. Although this radar is obsolete, whenever it is not out of order it is of some help to the Tucano aircraft in intercepting traffickers' planes.

FAP spokesmen admitted that the "electronic intelligence" supplied by U.S. "AWACS" and "Orion" is of vital importance for the interdiction operations against traffickers' planes and without their participation the Air Force's operations would not be as effective.

Official: Drug Fight To Continue Despite U.S. Decision

PY0806205494 Lima EL PERUANO in Spanish 2 Jun 94 p A3

[Text] Peru will continue to fight illegal drug trafficking as originally planned, despite the virtual decision by the U.S. Government to end the supply of information obtained by radar on the alleged air transportation of drugs.

This comment was made yesterday by General Arnaldo Velarde Ramirez, retired, the Peruvian representative before the Inter-American Committee for the Control of Drugs and Drug Abuse (CICAD) of the OAS, who said there is no official report from the U.S. Government on this issue.

He added: "All we know is of a decision by the U.S. Defense Department, which is not the official position of the U.S. Government."

Velarde said the lack of information on narcoplanes over Peruvian territory hurts drug enforcement considerably "but the government's political will is very strong. Peru will continue to fight trafficking with or without this information by using its own capabilities."

Velarde labeled the U.S. decision as unilateral and temporary, adding that it is "probably a decision made by the U.S. Defense Department."

Minister Plays Down CIDH Report on Garcia

PY0706235294 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 28 May 94 p 6

[Text] Efrain Goldenberg, president of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister, said yesterday that the preliminary report of the OAS Inter-American Human Rights Committee (CIDH), which recognizes the violation of ex-President Alan Garcia Perez's human rights, has no juridical effect and that this organization lacks any jurisdiction.

He harshly questioned the leaking of the preliminary report which he said is a "confidential" report.

Goldenberg expressed annoyance over the CIDH report which adds that Peru violated the guarantees of an adequate process in the case of Alan Garcia.

He said the judicial proceedings against Garcia for illegal enrichment and for the illegal possession of weapons will continue "because this investigation is completely independent of the matters discussed by the CIDH which has no power to make decisions or issue rulings."

He said the Peruvian Government has a term in which to implement appropriate actions, adding that the committee could even decide to shelf the case.

Goldenberg several times denied that the committee's preliminary report was a warning of the unstable Peruvian juridical system.

Regarding the release of the report in Washington, Goldenberg accused the head of the CIDH executive secretariat of unduly releasing the report.

He added that the diplomatic protest was already conveyed to the OAS through the permanent representative to that organization.

He believes the "leak" could affect the calm consideration of issues still pending for study by the committee.

The CIDH preliminary report indicates that the trial for illegal possession of weapons and illegal enrichment are based on "evidence obtained illegally" because action was taken without a court order and without the presence of a prosecutor.

But the forceful part of the report is the condemnation over the violations of the human rights of ex-President Garcia, his wife, and children.

Minister Goldenberg labeled the classification of Peru as a "narco state" by a French independent organization as completely out of place.

He said Peru was once in danger of becoming a "narco state" but this is no longer the case.

He stated categorically that it is not state policy to encourage the production, consumption, and traffic of drugs.

On the country, he said, Peru fights that criminal activity and the "results can be seen."

He said that the French organization was probably using old information.

He added: "The newspapers now frequently show the capture of light planes and other concrete facts."

Goldenberg did not want to be more specific of when there was a danger of becoming a narco state. At the insistence of reporters he said, smiling, that he was not referring to the Middle Ages "but to a recent period."

Goldenberg also revealed that Peru has signed agreements on investment protection with Paraguay, Colombia, France, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Sweden, Italy, and that one is about to be signed with the United States.

He expressed the government's great interest in continuing to sign this type of agreements with all countries with which it maintains relations.

Goldenberg also talked about the recent creation of the National Patriotic Council [Junta Patriotica Nacional—JPN] headed by Hugo de Zela Hurtado which strongly defends the enforcement of the 1929 Treaty with Chile and demands the annulment of the harmful 1993 Lima Convention.

In a conciliatory tone, Goldenberg said the government fully agrees with the objectives of the council but refused to talk about annulling the questioned convention.

He said the government will at no time neglect the defense and protection of national interests.

He said the enforcement of treaties is part of the government policy and that there is no need to worry about the government failing to enforce international treaties or neglecting the country's interest.

Foreign Minister Goldenberg made these comments after signing an important food aid agreement with U.S. Ambassador Alvin Adams, USAID Director George Wachtenheim, and Peruvian Economy Minister Jorge Camet.

New SL Faction Discovered Through Arrests

PY0806212294 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 31 May 94 p A6

[Excerpt] The recent arrest of several Shining Path [SL] leaders has alerted the antiterrorist forces to a new and powerful organization within the unruly Red Path [Sendero Rojo] faction of the SL organization which has for some time planned and directed subversive actions in Lima.

The new SL organ, called Lima-Regional Committee [Comite Lima-Regional] has become the strongest political-military SL sector in Lima. The Lima-Regional Committee is the result of the merging of the Peoples' Aid [Socorro Popular] and the Metropolitan Committee, both of which are SL groups that operated in Lima.

The National Counterterrorism Directorate (Dincote) has announced that the new group is responsible for numerous cases of murder and terrorist actions in Lima these past few months.

Among them are the recent attacks against City Hall, the Air Force headquarters, and the U.S. Embassy as well as the murder of neighborhood leaders and members of the Peruvian National Police.

Dincote believes the new committee is one of the most powerful the SL has throughout the country, although it is unaware of its real operating capacity.

The police know the group is headed by a collegiate leadership. SL members arrested by Dincote have said the Lima Regional leadership comprises: Jenny Rodriguez Neyra, aka Rita; Ostap Morote Barrionuevo, aka Luis; Maritza Infante Yupanqui, aka Milagros; Abdon Cruzat Cardenas; and two other unidentified terrorists.

The first information about the group was disclosed by an SL member arrested by Dincote in May 1993. Until then the police were unaware of the Lima-Regional Committee's existence.

An SL member identified as Guillermo Pflucker Ruiz, whose alias is Raul according to his police records, said the Peoples' Aid and the Lima Metropolitan Committee united their weakened force following the arrest of Abimael Guzman and several other SL leaders.

It seems the harsh blows sustained by the SL's military and political structure forced the merger because the two sectors had been seriously affected by the police action.

By late 1992, the Peoples' Aid and the Lima Metropolitan Committee had lost their main leaders and their operation capacity had been seriously affected.

With the merge the SL has maintained, although at a significantly lower level, its capacity and presence in Lima through its criminal actions. [passage omitted]

Retired General Sentenced for Slander

PY0906000194 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 2 Jun 94 p A6

[Excerpt] EP [Peruvian Army] General Jaime Salinas Sedo, retired, was absolved yesterday by the Military Court Supreme Council on charges of slandering the Armed Forces. The Military Court, nevertheless, sentenced him to 60 days imprisonment for slandering his superior, Army Commander Nicolas Hermoza Rios.

Military Court Prosecutor Colonel Raul Talledo Valdiviezo appealed the sentence after it was announced. He had requested a four year prison term and a fine of 100,000 soles. [passage omitted]

CCD Approves Privatizing Hydroelectric Plants

PY0806155494 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 28 May 94 p 2

[Excerpt] The official bloc of the CCD [Democratic Constituent Congress] on 27 May approved the bill that includes special, agricultural, and hydroelectric projects in the privatization process, disregarding the opposition's warning.

Therefore, large hydroelectric projects such as Olmos, Chavimochic, Majes, Tinajones, and Jequetepeque-Zana; the San Lorenzo irrigation project; and the Huinco and Marcapomacocha Machu Pichu hydroelectric plants, among others, can be sold.

The organizations, production units, and other projects under the state's responsibility also can be sold.

The new law that changes Legislative Decree No. 674 for Promoting Private Investments in State Enterprises also

grants full powers to the Privatization Commission (Copri) to carry out the auctions. [passage omitted]

Uruguay

Sanguinetti, Batalla Set Basis for Electoral Accord

PY0706175594 Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 2 Jun 94 p 8

[Excerpts] During a ceremony at List 2000 [not further specified] headquarters at midday on 1 June, Julio Maria Sanguinetti, leader of the Batlleist Forum [Colorado Party faction], and Senator Hugo Batalla, leader of the Party of the Government by the People, were presented with a document containing the programmatic bases of an electoral agreement between both political movements.

Flanked by Hugo Fernandez Faingold and Heber Gatto, Sanguinetti and Batalla each delivered a short speech on the agreement's implications to an audience of more than 100 people, including leaders and experts from both movements. [passage omitted]

Sanguinetti said: "What nurtures this agreement is a reflection and an analysis of the country and its future."

He added that it was with this objective in mind that he started to negotiate with Sen. Hugo Batalla, and stated that he was confident that talks would be brought to a successful conclusion in the coming weeks. [passage omitted]

Venezuela

Government Rejects Armed Intervention in Haiti

PA0806200594 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1900 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Caracas, 8 Jun (EFE)—The Venezuelan Government today reiterated its rejection of any unilateral or multilateral armed intervention by any country in Haiti.

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Burelli said that Venezuela will not be a party—under any circumstances—to any armed action in Haiti to oust the military regime. Burelli reaffirmed Venezuela's willingness to cooperate in solving the Haitian crisis, mentioning both nations' historical ties.

The Haitian crisis was one of the subjects discussed during the foreign ministers' meeting held on Monday, taking advantage of the OAS meeting in Belem de Para (Brazil).

The Venezuelan foreign minister said that Venezuela is one of the nations that has made great efforts seeking a solution to the Haitian problem and for the restoration of ousted Constitutional President Jean Bertrand Aristide. Venezuela, the United States, France, and Canada are part of the so-called "Group of Friends" that have sought alternatives for the political crisis Haiti has experienced since Aristide left power.

Burelli also indicated that Venezuela will only accept a small group of Haitian refugees, after the Venezuelan Embassy in the United States has certified their qualifications to be received by the nation. The Venezuelan foreign minister indicated that it was necessary "to definitely clear up speculation," which has arisen on Venezuela's decision to accept Haitian refugees.

Burelli referred to the letter sent by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in which he requests Venezuela's cooperation to receive Haitian refugees. Nevertheless, the Venezuelan reply to Christopher sums up that "under current circumstances it has a flow of uninvited immigrants," who have made even more difficult the conditions "increasing poverty and aggravating the social order problem," Burelli indicated. "We would accept a group qualified and certified by our embassy in Washington," he added.

Burelli also denied some statements published by several local papers indicating Venezuela was ready to receive several hundreds of Haitian refugees. He admitted, however, that if Haitian refugees do arrive, their stay permanence will "only be temporary," dependent on the solution of problems in Haiti.

The minister finally ruled out the possibility of Venezuela becoming a Haitian refugee camp.

Senator Calls U.S. Asylum Request 'Unusual'

PA0706233194 Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Report by the Cecilia Canones from the "Union Radio News" newscast]

[Text] According to Senator Aydee Castillo de Lopez, president of the Senate Foreign Policy Committee, it is highly unusual for the United States to deny asylum to Haitian refugees, while, at the same time, asking Venezuela to receive them. The senator added that Venezuela currently is not in the best of economic and social conditions to receive the Haitian refugees.

She stressed that it was quite unexpected that a highly developed nation such as the United States has decided not to give the refugees asylum, and yet it has asked a country like Venezuela—a nation facing a crisis—to receive them. She added that what is even more unusual is that the Venezuelan Government has decided to accept the request.

Minister Seeks U.S. Support To Fight Corruption

PA0706222494 Caracas EL GLOBO in Spanish 4 Jun 94 p 4

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Ramon Escovar Salom has asked Strobe Talbott, U.S. assistant secretary of state, for his country's assistance in fighting corruption, given this

struggle cannot be waged within the limits of Venezuela alone and requires the support of major countries to efficiently combat it. Corruption at home sometimes has implications abroad, the official has said.

Will the extradition of those who have committed offenses be discussed? a reporter asked. It is still too early to talk about that, but I congratulate you for your imagination, Escovar replied during the departure of the U.S. retinue of top officials comprising Joan Spero, assistant secretary of state for economic affairs, and Alexander Watson, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, and Ambassador Jeffrey Davidow.

The interior minister also discussed with them certain topics related to the problem of the governability of Venezuela and Latin America, because in Venezuela, in his words, we have a demonstration of what an ungovernable democracy is. "I told them that we did not have an economic crisis in Venezuela but, rather, the floundering of institutions, the floundering of governability, and that is the challenge this government is facing."

Increasing cooperation with the United States is indispensable. We face common challenges, Escovar said, regarding the defense of democracy, in addition to something that is very important: the need for major countries' cooperation in fighting corruption. We need international cooperation, because we want to chase certain crimes of corruption out from Venezuelan borders, hence the support we are requesting from the international community.

U.S. official Talbott talked to reporters about the positive results of the meeting with the interior minister. [passage omitted]

Roundup of Economic Developments

PA0806000094

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on Venezuelan economic developments monitored through 7 June.

The Superintendency for Foreign Investments—SIEX—has reported that foreign investments amounted to $93.6 million in May. This represents a 206 percent increase from the $30.5 million registered in April. SIEX added that the investments include $89.4 million in foreign exchange, $2.7 million in real estate, and $1.4 million in capital and credits. The investments were made in the following sectors: $83.6 million in transportation and storage, $47.2 million in manufacturing, $7.2 million in financial services, $6.4 million in commerce, $845,000 in agriculture and animal breeding, and $554,000 in construction. (Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 2 Jun 94 p 2-4)

Deputy Finance Minister Luis Xavier Grisanti has affirmed that the government will privatize the firms that comprise the Venezuelan Corporation of Guayana, CVG. He said the government wants this process to attract domestic and foreign investors because they could contribute capital, technology, markets, and management that will make the firms more competitive. Grisanti added that public services currently rendered by the CVG will be transferred to local governments. (Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 1 Jun 94)

Russian International Oil Company manager Vladimir Sustareyev has reported that representatives from three private Russian oil firms are attending the Maracaibo oil fair and have expressed interest in reaching economic cooperation agreements with the Venezuelan oil industry. (Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 1 Jun 94)

A survey shows that there were 40,512 less jobs over the past three months when compared to the previous three months, and 109,964 less jobs than in the same three-month period in 1993. Venezuelan Council of Industry President Jorge Redmond said these figures show the difficult situation faced by the manufacturing sector. The poll shows that the economic instability of the past three months has prompted a 22.4 percent decline in production and a 21.8 percent drop in demand. (Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 2 Jun 94 p 2-7)

Noris Aguirre, president of the Deposit Guarantee and Banking Protection Fund [FOGADE], has stated at Miraflores Palace that FOGADE will reorganize or privatize the seven banks and the other financial institution FOGADE is currently assisting if their shareholders do not repay their debts and increase their capital holdings within the scheduled time frame. (Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 2 Jun 94)

Environment Minister Roberto Perez Lecuna has reported that the executive branch has approved an emergency program to revitalize the water treatment program in the metropolitan area, earmarking 4.2 billion bolivares for this program. Perez reported that "efforts have begun" to obtain a 500-million bolivar loan that will allow "the total reorganization of the Caracas sewer system." (Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 31 May 94)

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